



# **Fallen Journalists Memorial** **SITE SELECTION STUDY**

September 2021

***Congress shall make no law*** respecting an establishment of religion,  
or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or ***abridging the freedom of  
speech, or of the press***; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble,  
and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

-U.S. Constitution Amendment I

*The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation may establish a  
commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and  
its environs **to commemorate America's commitment to a free press** by  
honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause.*

-Public Law 116-253



## Introduction

The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation has initiated a site selection study to identify and evaluate potential locations for a new Fallen Journalists Memorial. As stated in Public Law 116-253, “The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation may establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to commemorate America’s commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause.” This site selection study seeks to illustrate context, provide data, and articulate memorial goals to guide the selection of an appropriate site for the new memorial.

## Area I Justification

The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation seeks authorization to establish the memorial within Area I as defined by the Commemorative Works Act. In addition to analysis of specific sites, this site selection study articulates the justification to determine the memorial as “of preeminent historical and lasting significance to the United States.”

## Goals

The intent of the memorial is to balance the duality of providing a place of commemoration and serving as an inspiration for journalists and the public. The following identify the primary, secondary, and tertiary goals of the memorial.

### Primary Goal: Commemoration

- Recognize and honor journalists’ heroism and lives sacrificed in service to democracy.
- Convey the dangers journalists face in protecting and documenting the truth enabled by freedom of the press.
- Provide a place for reflection and intimate contemplation for the public and serve as a focal point for those personally connected to fallen journalists.

### Secondary Goal: Inspiration

- Serve as a beacon for freedom of the press and emphasize that a free and independent press is a worthy cause in the past, present, and future.
- Showcase America’s commitment to a free press as a world-wide example and source of aspiration.
- Inspire young memorial visitors to consider a career in journalism.

### Tertiary Goal: Education

- Raise awareness and educate visitors about risks to a free press and the contributions of journalism as a pillar of democracy (i.e., the Fourth Estate).
- Illustrate journalists’ role in witnessing, recording, and documenting historic events and seminal moments from diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

## Program

To advance the goals of commemoration, education and inspiration, the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation envisions that the Memorial will include an outdoor site with a commemorative feature and other elements, such as a plaza, benches, or interpretive signage. These physical elements would be supported by online educational information. Combined, the Memorial will serve as:

- A daily place of reflection to inspire respect for the sacrifice made by journalists in the cause of seeking truth to preserve our freedoms, and for family and friends to remember those journalists who have given their lives
- A focal point for understanding the First Amendment and how it has enabled the work of journalism in seeking truth to advance democracy and maintain freedom
- A convening place for commemorative events to honor journalists and to study the future of journalism in an evolving world
- An attraction that stimulates visitors to the Nation’s Capital to access online educational programming to learn more about the importance of a free press to a functioning democracy

## Site Criteria

Site Criteria	Details
Program Suitability	The site should provide adequate space for a physical memorial and group gatherings and programmatic events. A memorial at the site should protect public space and enhance public use while avoiding encroachment or interference with existing memorials.
Thematic Nexus	The context of the site should be thematically or conceptually connected to the purpose or content of the memorial. In addition, it should be in close proximity to the three branches of government. This will illustrate America’s commitment to a press that is free from government control or oversight, while also critical to a functioning democracy.
Universal Accessibility	The site should be readily accessible not only to pedestrians and visitors to the nation’s capital, but to journalists who live and work in the area.
Site Prominence and Visibility	The site should be visible to government leaders and visitors in a way that reinforces America’s commitment to the freedom of the press.
Independence	The site should be nonadjacent to government buildings, highlighting the independent and essential role that journalists play in holding democratic institutions accountable to their citizens.
Site Availability	The site should be available through federal, District, or private properties. The site should not have known opposition to the placement of a memorial.
Transportation Access	This site should be accessible via public transportation.
Tranquility	The site should be a place that can offer a tranquil environment for reflection, commemoration and learning. Excessive noise, traffic, and other potential distractions are not desirable.
Infrastructure	The site should require minimal infrastructure improvements. Required changes, such as roadway improvements or relocated utility lines, would make potential sites more challenging.

# **SITE SELECTION MEMORIAL CONTEXT**

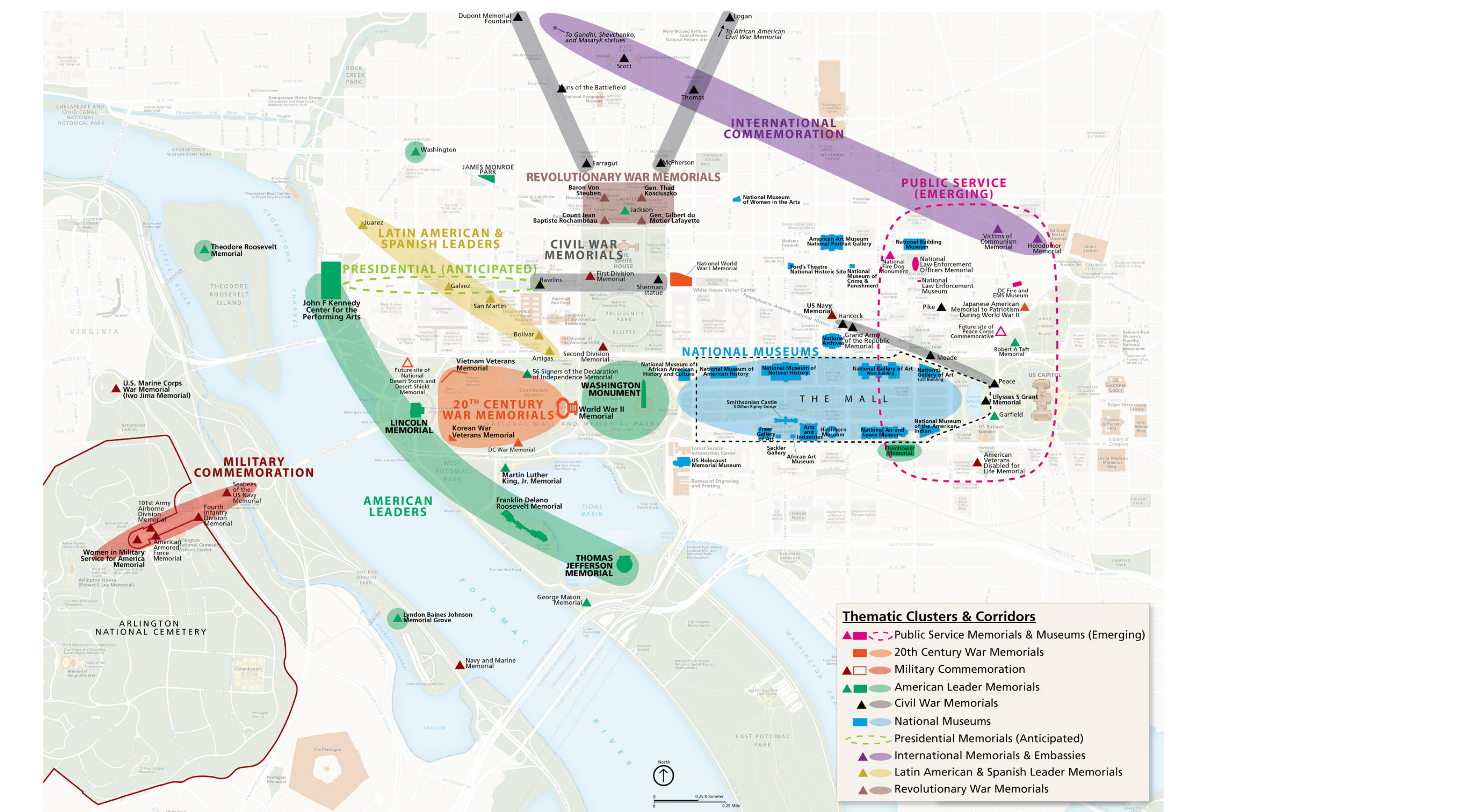


Prominent Government and Journalism Locations in Washington





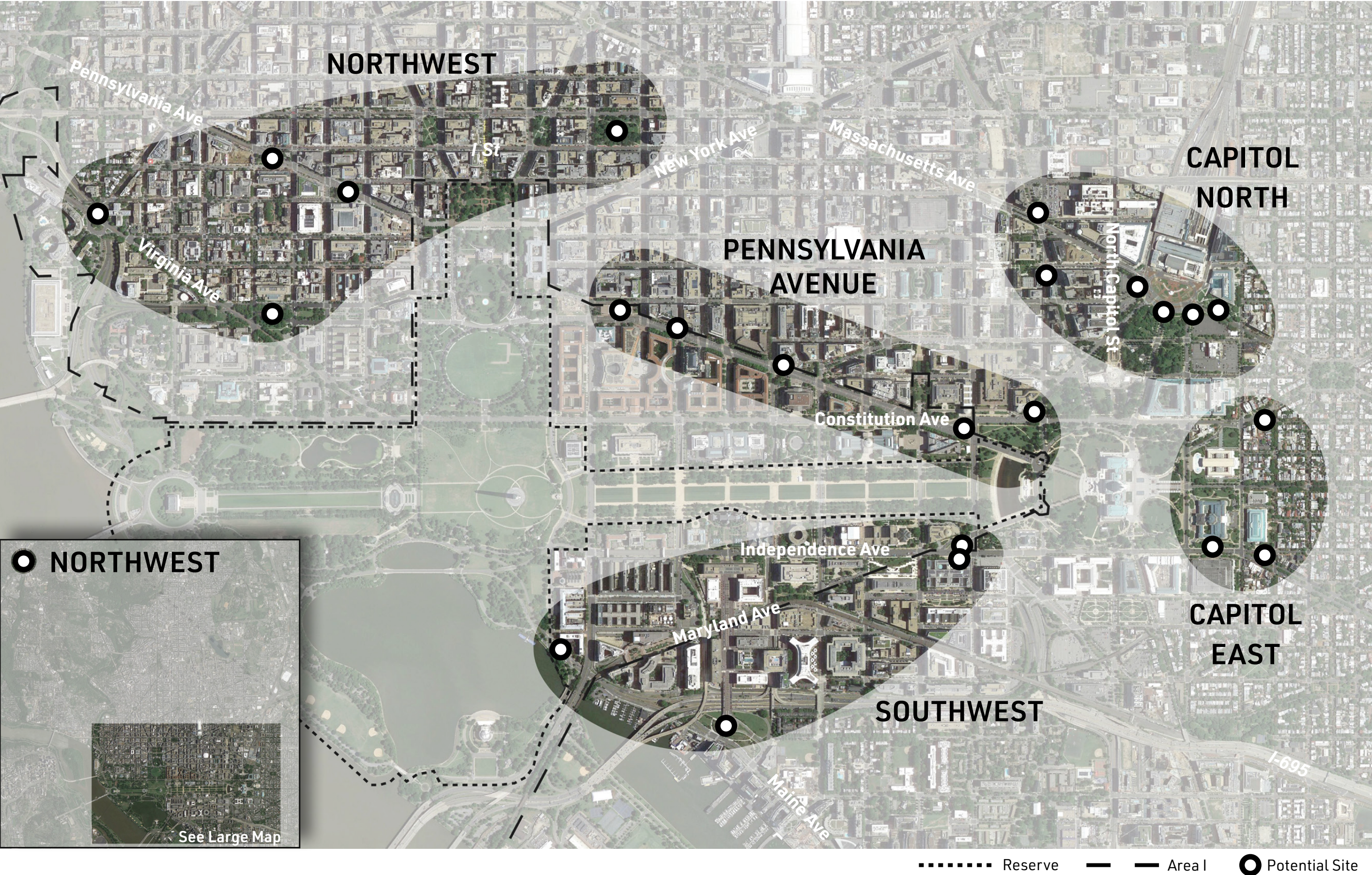
## Memorial Thematic Clusters in Washington



# **POTENTIAL SITES: INITIAL INVENTORY**



Potential Sites: Initial Inventory





## Potential Sites: Initial Inventory - Pennsylvania Avenue



**Freedom Plaza**

View north from Pennsylvania Avenue



**Pennsylvania Avenue at 12th Street NW**

View towards the U.S. Capitol down  
Pennsylvania Avenue NW



**Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street NW**

View of the U.S. Capitol down  
Pennsylvania Avenue NW



**Pennsylvania & Constitution Avenues at  
3rd Street NW**

View southwest



**Constitution & Louisiana Avenues at 1st  
Street NW**

View east



## Potential Sites: Initial Inventory - Capitol North



**New Jersey Avenue at 1st Street NW**

View south



**Massachusetts & New Jersey Avenues at 1st**

View east



**Columbus Circle NW West**

View north



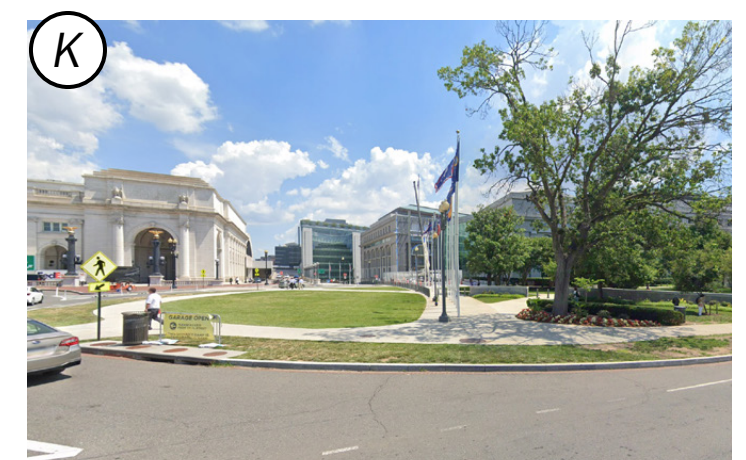
**Columbus Circle NW South**

View toward the Judiciary Building



**Columbus Circle NW East**

View southeast



**Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building lawn**

View north towards Union Station



## Potential Sites: Initial Inventory - Capitol East



**Maryland & Constitution Avenues at 3rd St NE**

View southwest



**Pennsylvania & Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SE**

View west



**Library of Congress South Lawn**

View east





## Potential Sites: Initial Inventory - Southwest



**Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SW**

View of the U.S. Capitol



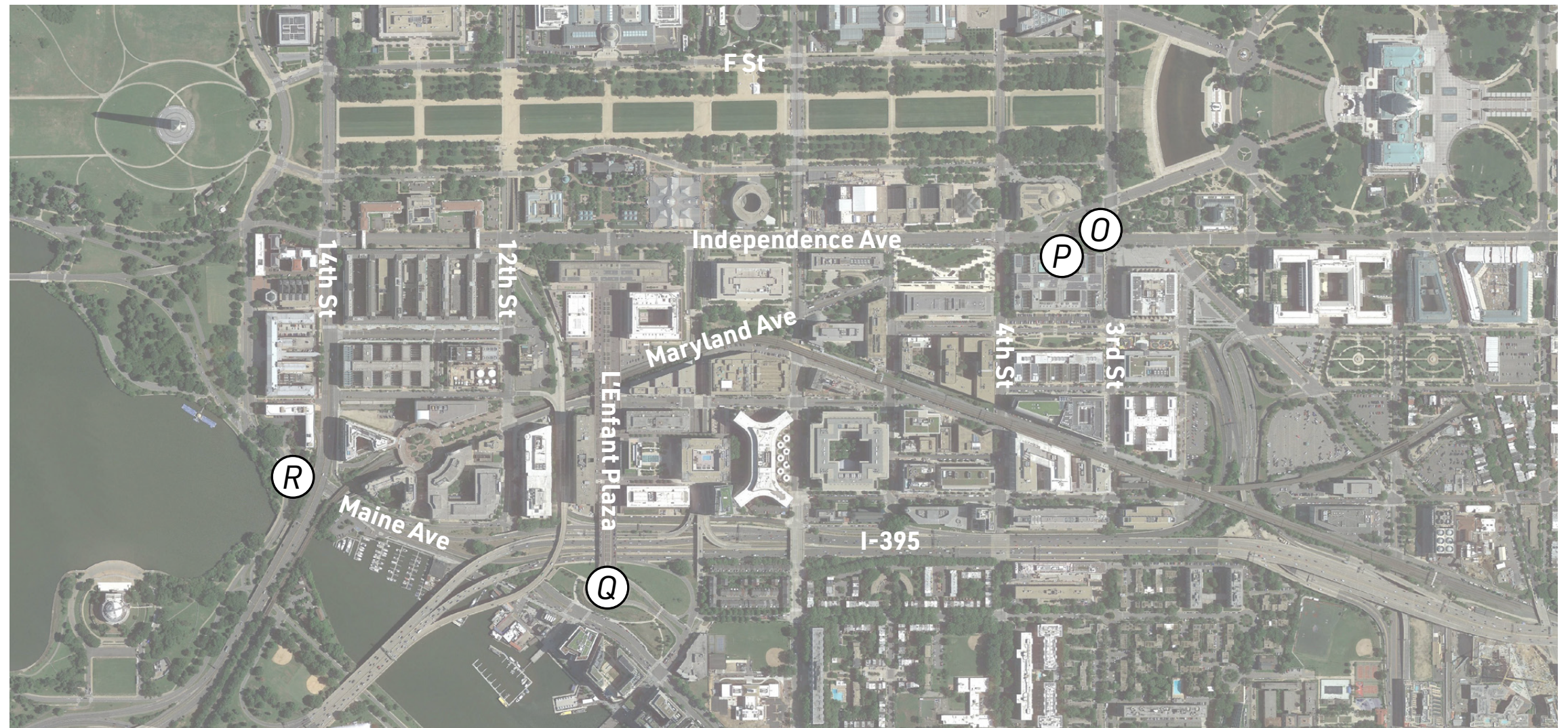
**Independence Avenue SW along Voice of America**

View west



**Benjamin Banneker Park**

View north



**Maine Avenue SW**

View east



## Potential Sites: Initial Inventory - Northwest



**Franklin Square**

View west from intersection



**Edward R. Murrow Park**

View southeast on north side of  
Pennsylvania Ave



**James Monroe Park**

View north



**Virginia Avenue at New Hampshire  
Avenue NW**

View west



**Tenley Circle Reservations at Wisconsin  
Av NW**

View southeast



**Walt Whitman Park**

View from 20th St, facing south



Site Evaluation

Site	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Universal Accessibility	Prominence and Visibility	Independence	Site Availability	Transportation Access	Tranquility	Infrastructure Suitability	TOTAL SCORE	Area I
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Pennsylvania Ave & Constitution Avenue NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	23	<div></div>
Edward R. Murrow Park	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	22	<div></div>
LOC South Lawn	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	22	<div></div>
Walt Whitman Park	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
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Thurgood Marshall Building Lawn	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
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Constitution & Louisiana Aves NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
Pennsylvania & Independence Aves at 3rd St SE	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
James Monroe Park	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
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Site Evaluation: Under Architect of the Capitol Jurisdiction

Site	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Universal Accessibility	Prominence and Visibility	Independence	Site Availability	Transportation Access	Tranquility	Infrastructure Suitability	TOTAL SCORE	Area I
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<del>LOC South Lawn</del>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	22	<div></div>
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Site Evaluation: Program Suitability

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<del>Pennsylvania Ave &amp; 9th St NW</del>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
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<del>Constitution &amp; Louisiana Aves NW</del>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
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<del>Virginia &amp; New Hampshire Aves NW</del>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	16	<div></div>
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Site Evaluation: Thematic Nexus

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Pennsylvania Ave & 9th St NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
Pennsylvania Ave & 12th St NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
Thurgood Marshall Building Lawn	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
Maryland & Constitution Aves at 3rd St NE	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
Columbus Circle South	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	18	<div></div>
Voice of America Yard	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
Constitution & Louisiana Aves NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
Pennsylvania & Independence Aves at 3rd St SE	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
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Virginia & New Hampshire Aves NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	16	<div></div>
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Columbus Circle West	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	16	<div></div>
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Massachusetts & New Jersey Aves & 1st St NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	16	<div></div>
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<del>Maine Ave SW</del>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	15	<div></div>
New Jersey Ave & 1st St NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	15	<div></div>



Site Evaluation: Universal Accessibility

Site	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Universal Accessibility	Prominence and Visibility	Independence	Site Availability	Transportation Access	Tranquility	Infrastructure Suitability	TOTAL SCORE	Area I
Criteria Priority	High	High	High	High	High	High	Low	Low	Low		
Maryland & Independence Aves at 3rd St SW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	26	<div></div>
Freedom Plaza	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	24	<div></div>
Pennsylvania Ave & Constitution Avenue NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	23	<div></div>
Edward R. Murrow Park	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	22	<div></div>
LOC South Lawn	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	22	<div></div>
Walt Whitman Park	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
Pennsylvania Ave & 9th St NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
Pennsylvania Ave & 12th St NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
Thurgood Marshall Building Lawn	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
<del>Maryland &amp; Constitution Aves at 3rd St NE</del>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
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Voice of America Yard	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
Constitution & Louisiana Aves NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
Pennsylvania & Independence Aves at 3rd St SE	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
James Monroe Park	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
Banneker Park	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
Virginia & New Hampshire Aves NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	16	<div></div>
Tenley Circle	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	16	<div></div>
Columbus Circle West	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	16	<div></div>
Columbus Circle East	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	16	<div></div>
Massachusetts & New Jersey Aves & 1st St NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	16	<div></div>
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New Jersey Ave & 1st St NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	15	<div></div>

Site Evaluation: Best Suited for Memorial

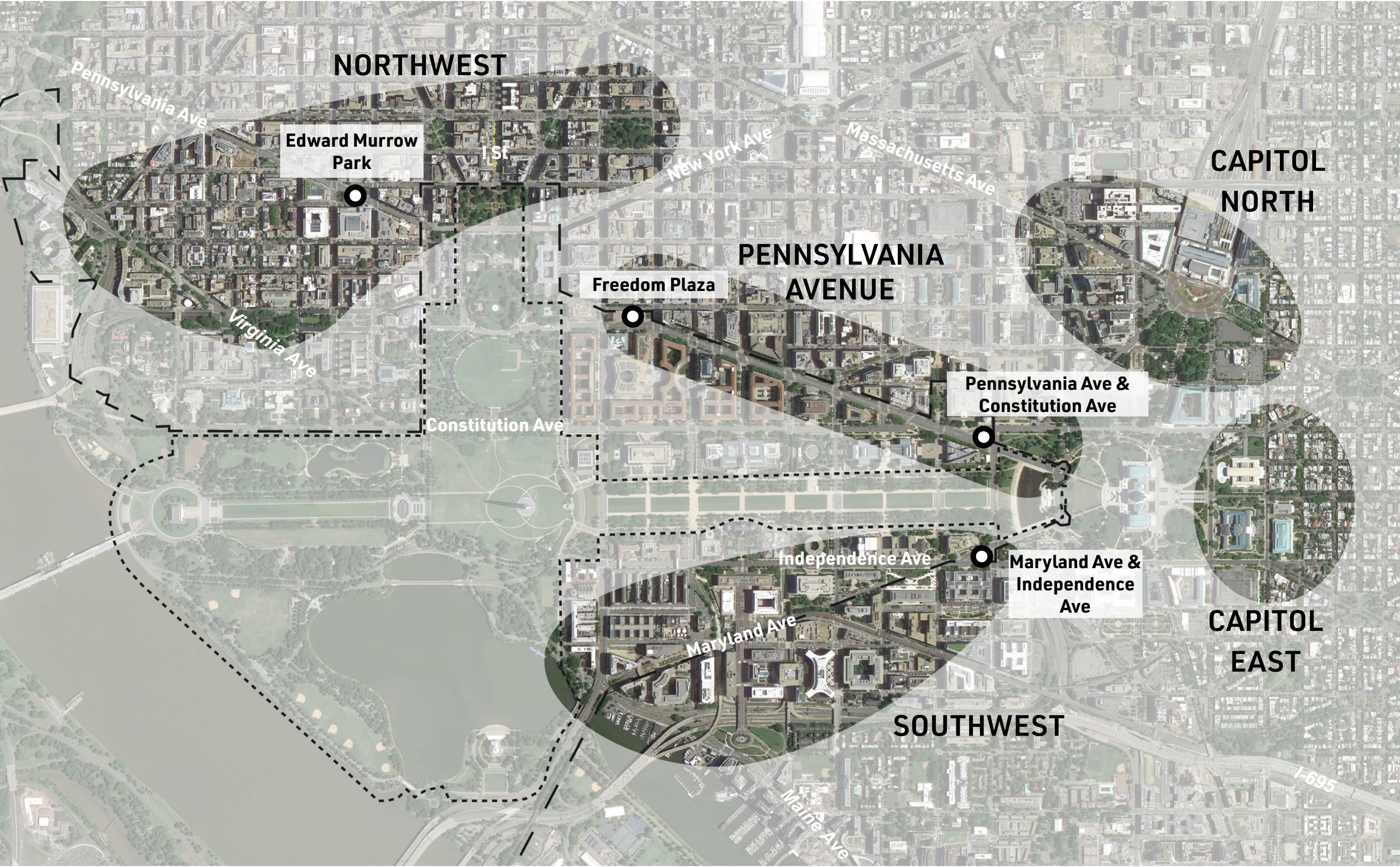
Site	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Universal Accessibility	Prominence and Visibility	Independence	Site Availability	Transportation Access	Tranquility	Infrastructure Suitability	TOTAL SCORE	Area I
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Freedom Plaza	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	24	<div></div>
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Pennsylvania Ave & 9th St NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	19	<div></div>
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Constitution & Louisiana Aves NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
Pennsylvania & Independence Aves at 3rd St SE	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	17	<div></div>
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Franklin Square	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	15	<div></div>
Maine Ave SW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	15	<div></div>
New Jersey Ave & 1st St NW	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	15	<div></div>

# **VIABLE SITES**

## **Second Round Site Evaluation**



Viable Sites: Additional Studies



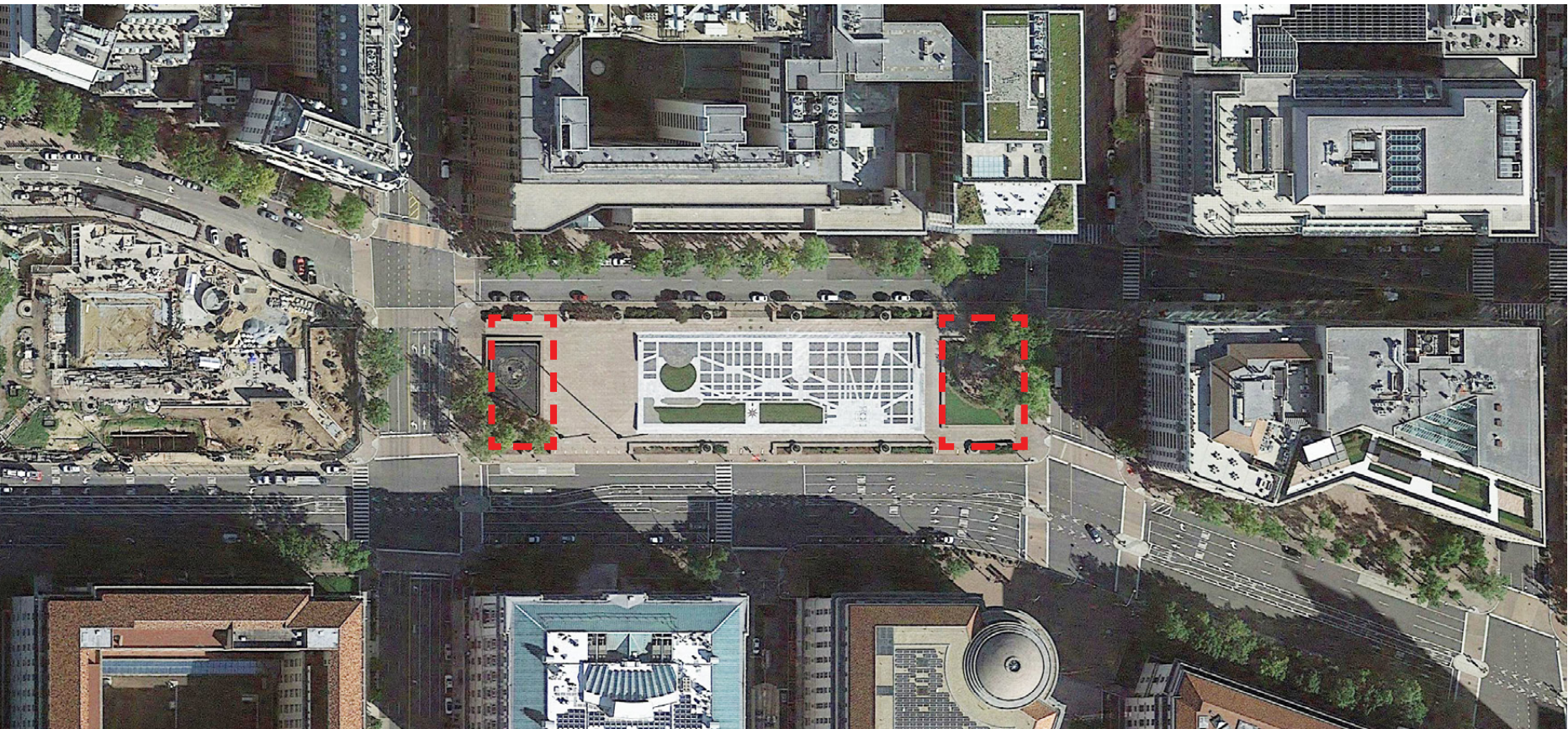


Viable Site A: Freedom Plaza (intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and 13th Street NW)



Site Location: Northwest      Site Size: ~0.28 acres      Area I Location: Yes

Site Criteria	Notes
Program Suitability	Offers opportunity for commemoration and permitted space for events; would require relocation of Pulaski statue
Thematic Nexus	Near National Press Club, one block from Evening Star Building, four blocks from National Archives, direct view of U.S. Capitol dome along Pennsylvania Avenue NW; recognized in Washington as a point of 1st Amendment expression
Universal Accessibility	Served by Metrorail stations; offers opportunity for new reports from site
Site Prominence and Visibility	Located along iconic Pennsylvania Avenue NW; adjacent to National World War I Memorial; one block from Presidents Park; two blocks from White House
Independence	Bordered by roadways on three sides, pubic space on one side
Site Availability	NPS jurisdiction
Transportation Access	A 4-minute walk from the Metro Center and a 3-minute walk from the Federal Triangle Metrorail stations
Tranquility	Location along busy Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Infrastructure	Metrorail tunnels and utility lines located under plaza



1: View southwest



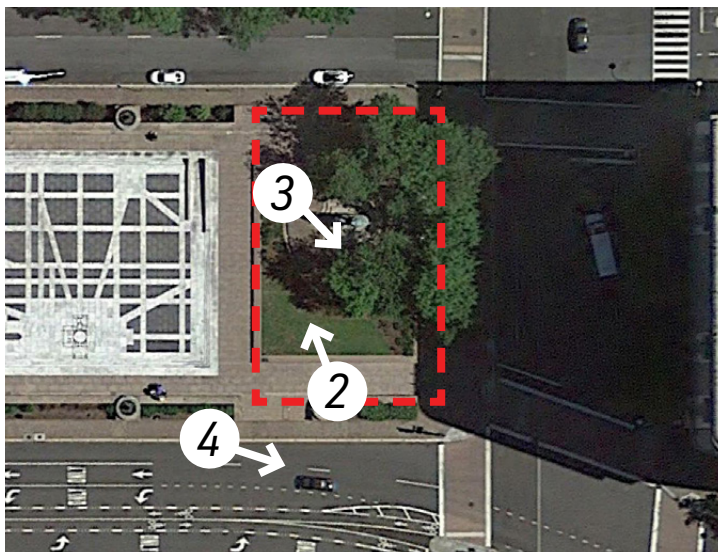
## Viable Site A: Freedom Plaza (intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and 13th Street NW)



**2:** View north from Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



**3:** View southeast from within park (AECOM, 7/2021)



**4:** View of the U.S. Capitol down Pennsylvania NW (Google Street View, 10/2018)

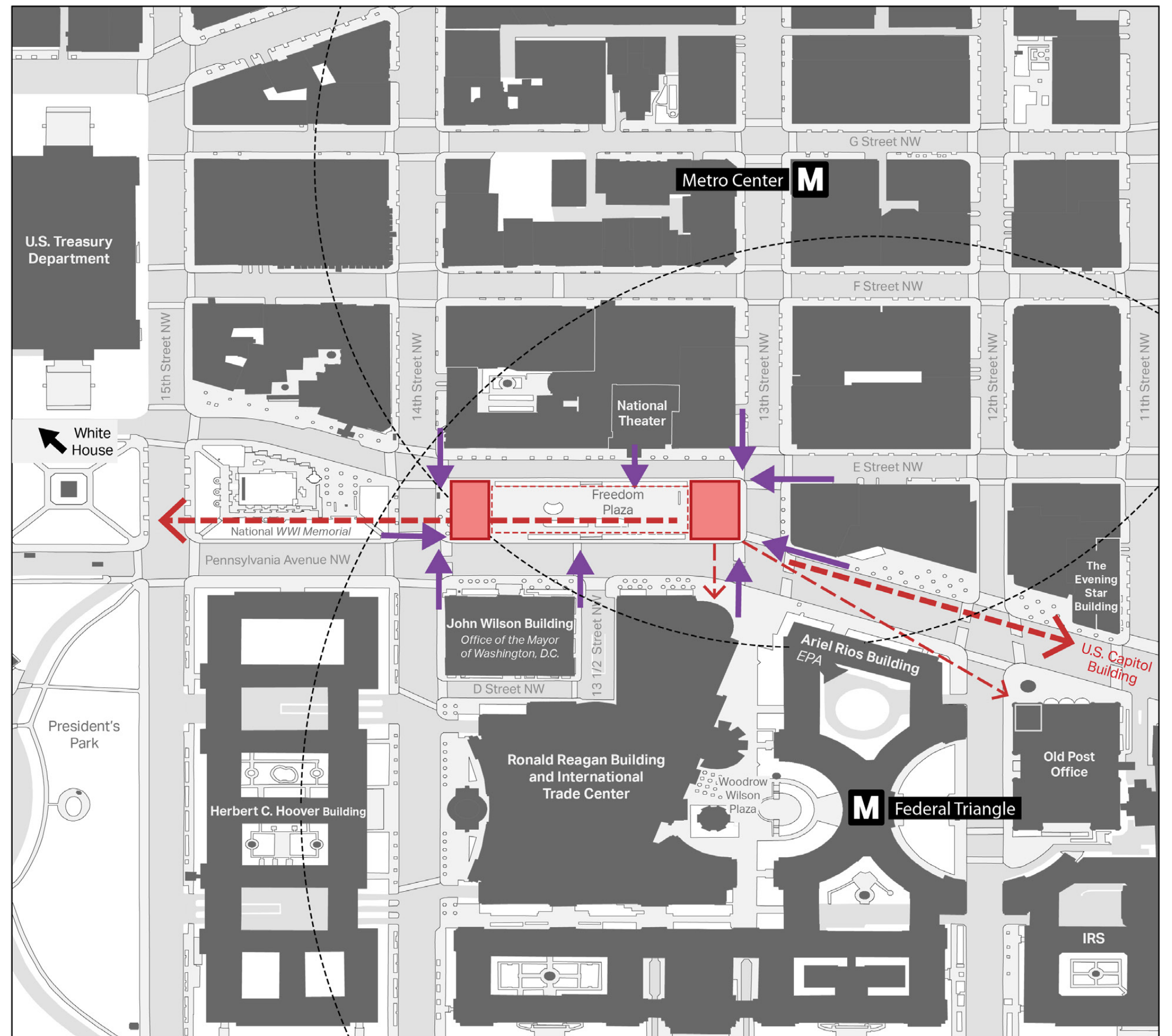
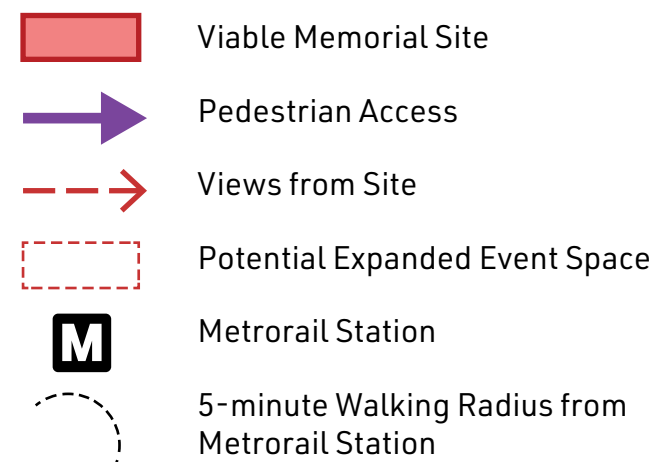




## Site Analysis: Site A

### Freedom Plaza (Intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and 13th Street NW)

- The site is a 4-minute walk from the Metro Center Metrorail Station (Red/Blue/Orange/Silver Lines), and a 3-minute walk from the Federal Triangle Metrorail Station (Blue/Orange/Silver Lines)
- The primary viewsheds are southeast along Pennsylvania Ave NW to the U.S. Capitol Building and east across Freedom Plaza and towards the National World War I Memorial and President's Park. Secondary views are to south towards the Ronald Reagan Building and southeast toward the old post office tower.
- Pedestrians have multiple access points to the site using crosswalks from adjacent parcels
- The site has the potential to accommodate large special events on the adjacent Freedom Plaza
- The Pulaski statue would require relocation to another, as yet undetermined, site.



Thematic Links: Site A

Freedom Plaza (Intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and 13th Street NW)

1. Pennsylvania Avenue + US Capitol Building

Adjacent to Pennsylvania Avenue and with a direct, axial view of the Capitol Building, the site has strong visual connection to the seat of the legislative branch of the U.S. federal government. Its location adjacent to the Federal Triangle provides a strong visual connection to neoclassical buildings that house government offices.

2. John A. Wilson Building - Executive Office of the Mayor and Council of the District of Columbia + Boss Shepherd Statue

The historic John A. Wilson building houses the Executive Office of the Mayor and the Council of the District of Columbia. The statue of Alexander 'Boss' Shepherd stands at the northwestern corner of the Wilson Building. Shepherd was the second Governor of the District of Columbia (1873-1874) and early owner of the Evening Star Newspaper.

3. National Press Club

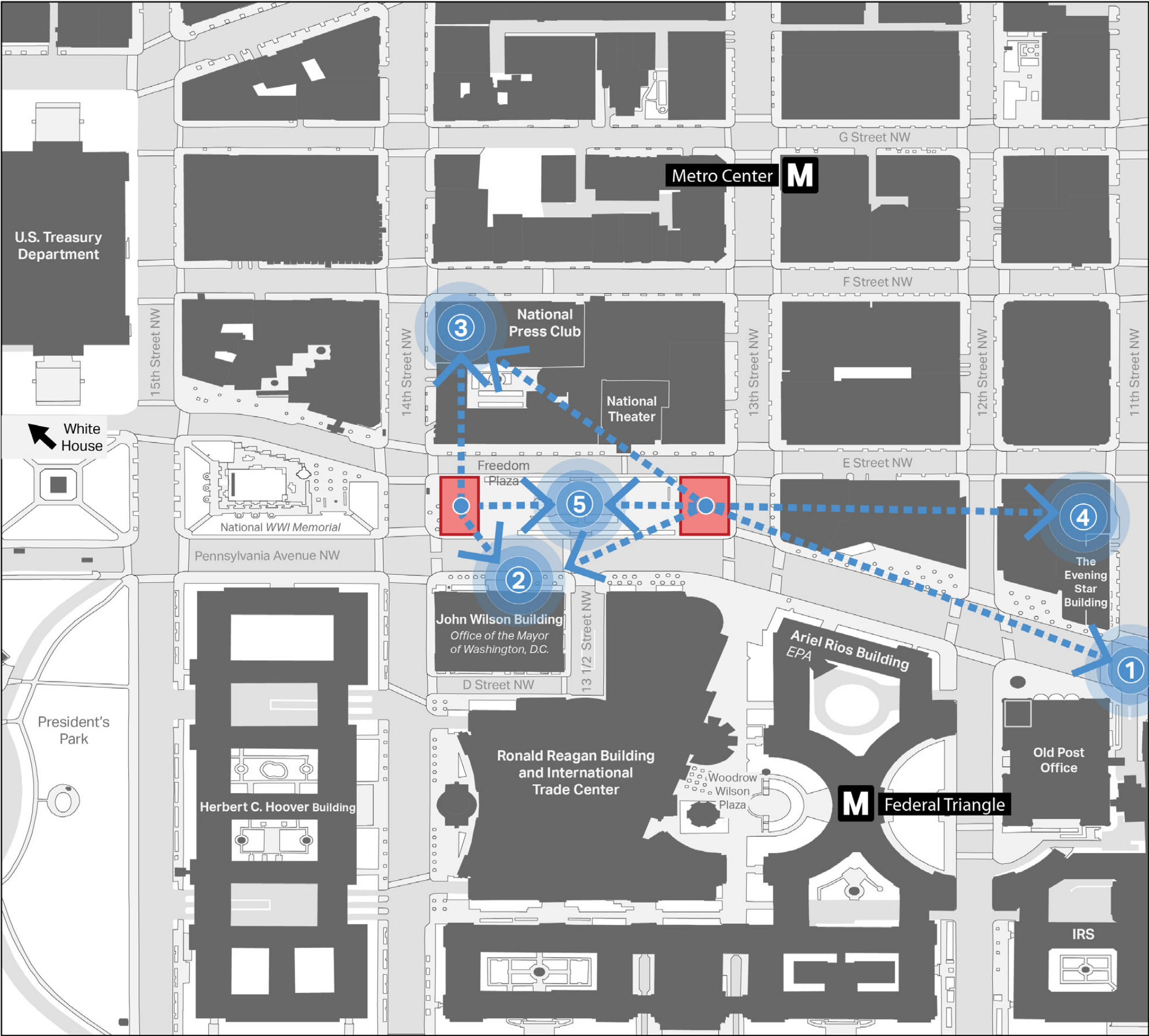
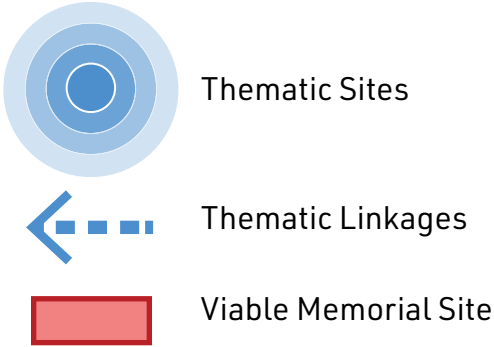
A three minute walk from the site, the National Press Club is a professional organization for journalists and communications professionals. The historic National Press Building was built in 1927.

4. The Evening Star Building

The historic Beaux Arts building was constructed in 1900 by the Evening Star Newspaper Company who occupied it from 1900-1959.

5. First Amendment Gatherings

Freedom Plaza is a popular public space for first amendment gatherings and is named in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. who worked on his 'I Have a Dream' speech in the nearby Willard Hotel.





Memorials and Museums Master Plan: Freedom Plaza

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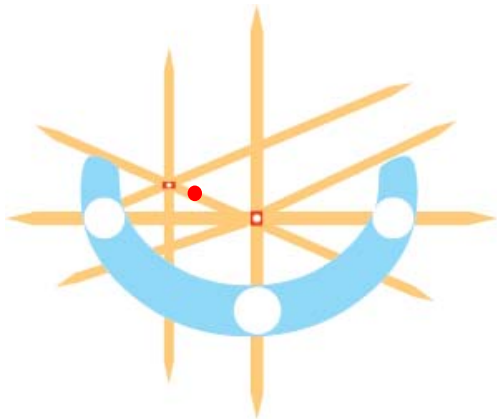
Freedom Plaza on Pennsylvania Avenue NW, between 13th and 14th Streets

Site 5

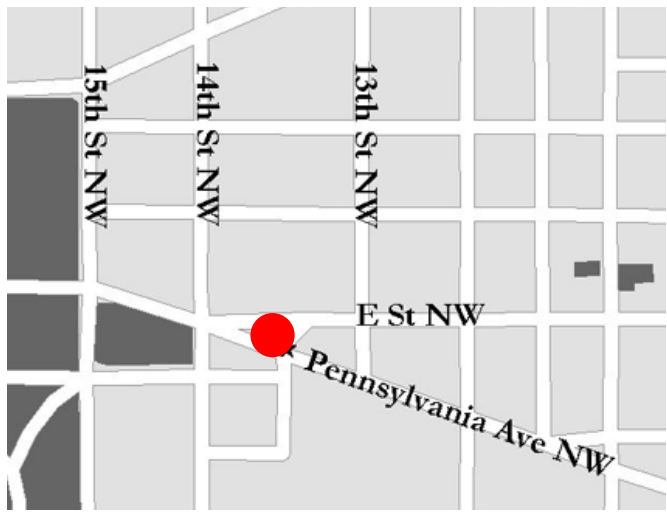
Location:



Framework Context:



Vicinity:



Site Description Summary

Freedom Plaza is located on Pennsylvania Avenue near the White House in the heart of the Downtown Core and Federal Triangle area. The site location is bounded generally by Pennsylvania Avenue and 13th, 14th, and E Streets, NW. The proposed site, which is long and narrow, is currently developed as a formal plaza. The site has an existing scaled reproduction of the L'Enfant Plan for Washington. In addition, there is a fountain on the western edge of the site, a memorial statue of General Casimir Pulaski in the tree-lined, recessed, northeast corner, and a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day time capsule under the plaza. The site area is less than two acres.

Urban Design Conditions

This site location, along a Monumental Corridor, is a centerpiece of the Urban Design Framework. The site location is within walking distance of both the White House and the Capitol, as well as the National Mall. The site area also offers numerous cultural resources, including the National Theatre, the John Wilson Building (the District's City Hall), the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, and the Old Post Office. The site location offers a direct axial view down Pennsylvania Avenue (a Special Street) to the Capitol. The site location has been designated a Special Place and was highlighted as an urban square in both the L'Enfant and the McMillan Plans.

Economic Conditions

The Freedom Plaza site is in an active business district that also draws a substantial number of tourists, due to the nearby retail activities, theaters, and hotels. Much of the area is already economically mature. A memorial would likely rely on existing visitor patterns and spending behaviors in the area and not generate economic impacts independent of its neighbors. Greater street-level retail opportunities do exist in the area, but the site's strongest economic potential is likely as a mixed-use redevelopment with commemorative and commercial activities integrated on-site. The Navy Memorial mixed-use development could serve as a model for economic planning at the Freedom Plaza site.

Transportation Conditions

This site has an excellent supporting transportation system. The closest Metrorail station is Metro Center (less than 1,000 feet), through which the Red, Blue and Orange lines can be accessed. The Federal Triangle Metrorail Station (approximately 1,000 feet from the site) and the McPherson Square Metrorail Station (approximately 2,000 feet from the site) both provide access to the Blue and Orange lines. There is also excellent vehicular access to this site complemented by numerous public parking garages and on-street parking opportunities. The Circulator might be routed near the plaza if demand dictates. Metrobus access is excellent.

Environmental Conditions

Due to the open, urban character of this location, there are few natural resources associated with the site. The hard-scaped plaza does not offer soil, water resources, or habitat for animal species. However, a few trees and planting beds line the northeastern edge of the plaza by the Pulaski statue. Although the site receives impacts from traffic along Pennsylvania Avenue, the site does not suffer from adverse air quality.

Memorials and Museums Master Plan: Freedom Plaza

Freedom Plaza on Pennsylvania Avenue, NW between 13th and 14th Streets

Site 5 47

Commemorative Opportunity:

Jurisdiction: Federal – National Park Service

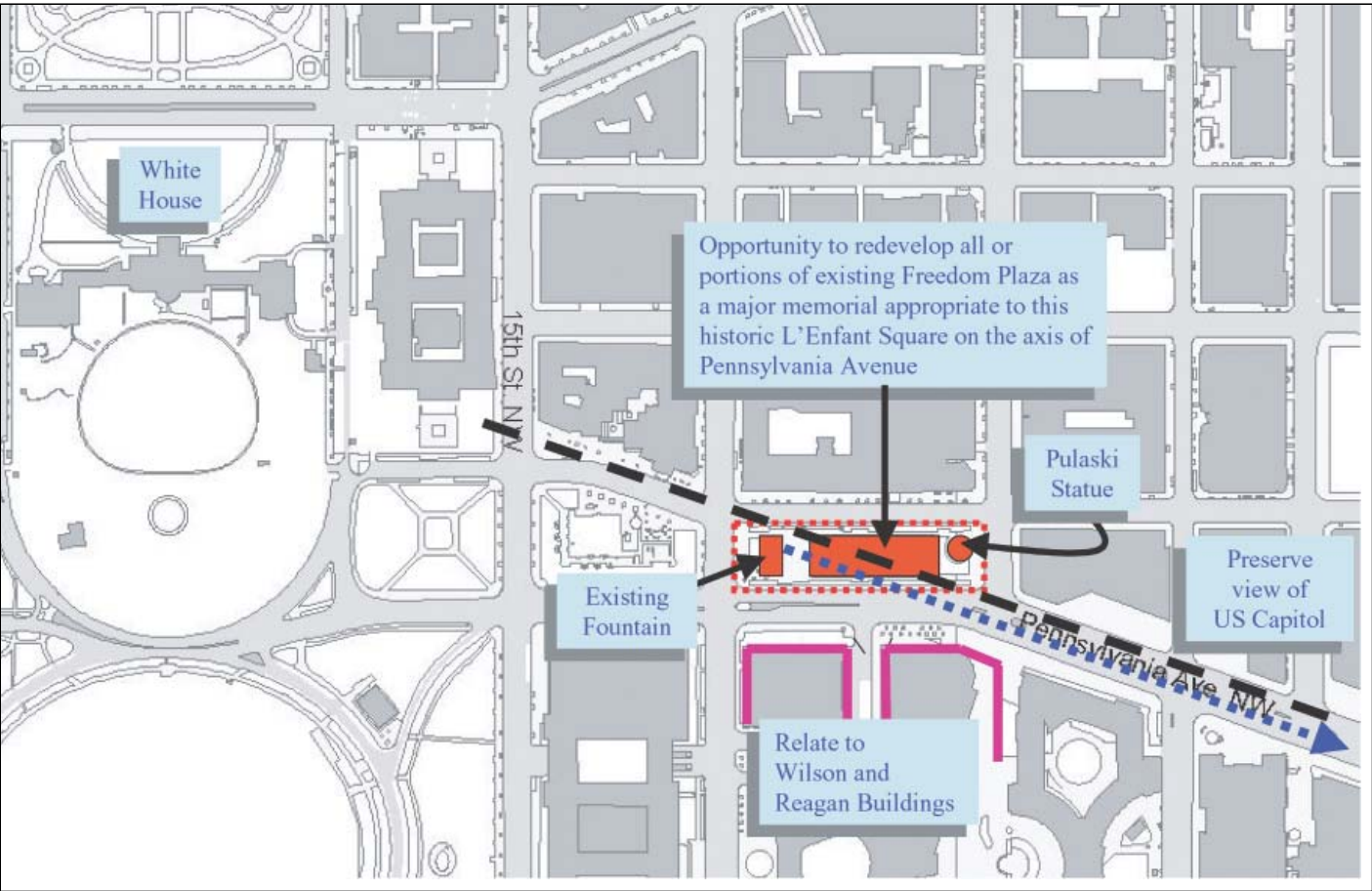
Opportunities exist to redevelop either portions of the plaza or the entire plaza in conjunction with a new primary memorial and/or potential associated memorials. Developing this site location as a destination-type memorial could enhance the axial relationship between the White House and the U.S. Capitol, provide space for commemorative events, and cater to the nearby tourist market. Ultimately, development could transform the site into an important gateway to the Downtown area. A memorial at this location would be able to accommodate a large volume of visitors because of the public transportation capacity of the three nearby Metrorail stations, numerous parking opportunities, and good regional roadway access.

Since the site is generally level, future memorial construction would not require major sitework other than removal of the existing plaza and lowering it to sidewalk level or below. However, developing the site for a higher use may require slight upgrades to utilities, especially lighting. The design principles of the L'Enfant Plan should be enhanced through the appropriate placement and design of a memorial at this location. The memorial should be oriented toward pedestrians and, if related in theme to nearby activities, could encourage additional activity.



The view shown above is looking east along the axis of Freedom Plaza. Although the site location has fulfilled historic design plans by being an urban plaza, this plaza has not achieved the vibrancy of public use that the early city planners envisioned.

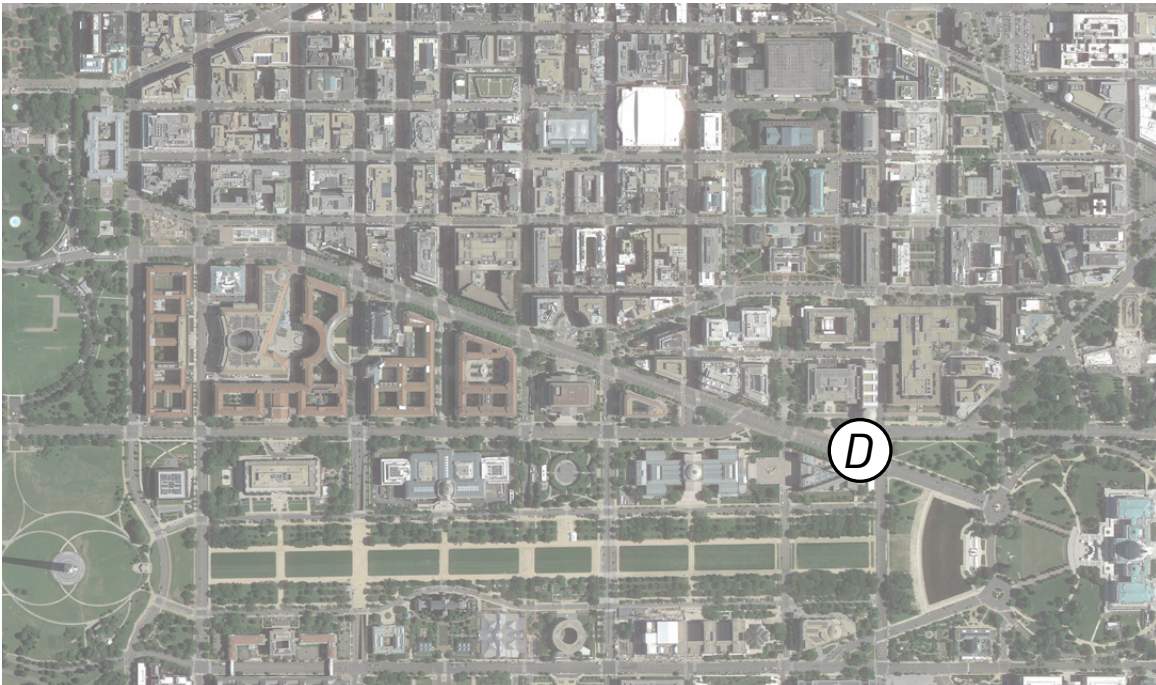
Design Considerations:



1. Any future memorial should respect and relate to its location on Pennsylvania Avenue, and include a significant feature at this location. The original design concept for the plaza included two major pylons and sculpture representing the U.S. Capitol and the White House.
2. The opportunity exists to redevelop either portions of the plaza or the entire plaza in conjunction with a new memorial. The site could consist of a primary memorial, with associated and smaller memorials. Any future memorial should incorporate existing reciprocal vistas along Pennsylvania Avenue. The mass and scale should not change the primary axial relationships along Pennsylvania Avenue, and should not overshadow the importance of the Wilson Building.
3. The location is near the White House Visitors Center and other sites that draw tourists and visitors. A memorial could draw visitors to the plaza and into Downtown through related museums or thematic connections.
4. The design of any future memorial should provide adequate space for commemorative ceremonies and casual gatherings. A memorial at this location could utilize a nearby building for a related museum. Any future memorial should utilize and take advantage of existing infrastructure, including existing street parking and Metrorail and Metrobus access.
5. This site is not appropriate for a building. Amenities such as parking and visitor services, i.e., restrooms, gift shops, and parking, should not be located at this site. Any design should recognize the importance of the Wilson Building as the District of Columbia City Hall.



Viable Site D: Pennsylvania Avenue & Constitution Avenue NW



Site Location: Northwest      Site Size: ~0.19 acres      Area I Location: Yes

Site Criteria	Notes
Program Suitability	Site could accommodate permanent commemorative feature and gatherings
Thematic Nexus	Adjacent to the U.S. Capitol grounds and with a direct, axial view of the Capitol Dome, Site D has strong visual connection to the seat of the legislative branch of the U.S. federal government.
Universal Accessibility	Two blocks from Metrorail station. Offers access to iconic Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Site Prominence and Visibility	Site sits directly on Pennsylvania Ave NW near the National Mall at the foot of the U.S. Capitol Grounds.
Independence	Bordered on all sides by roadways
Site Availability	NPS jurisdiction
Transportation Access	A 6-minute walk from the Judiciary Square and an 8-minute walk from the Archives Metrorail stations
Tranquility	Site is at the intersection of two multi-lane, high-traffic avenues.
Infrastructure	Site contains large vents and sits above I-395.



1: View southeast



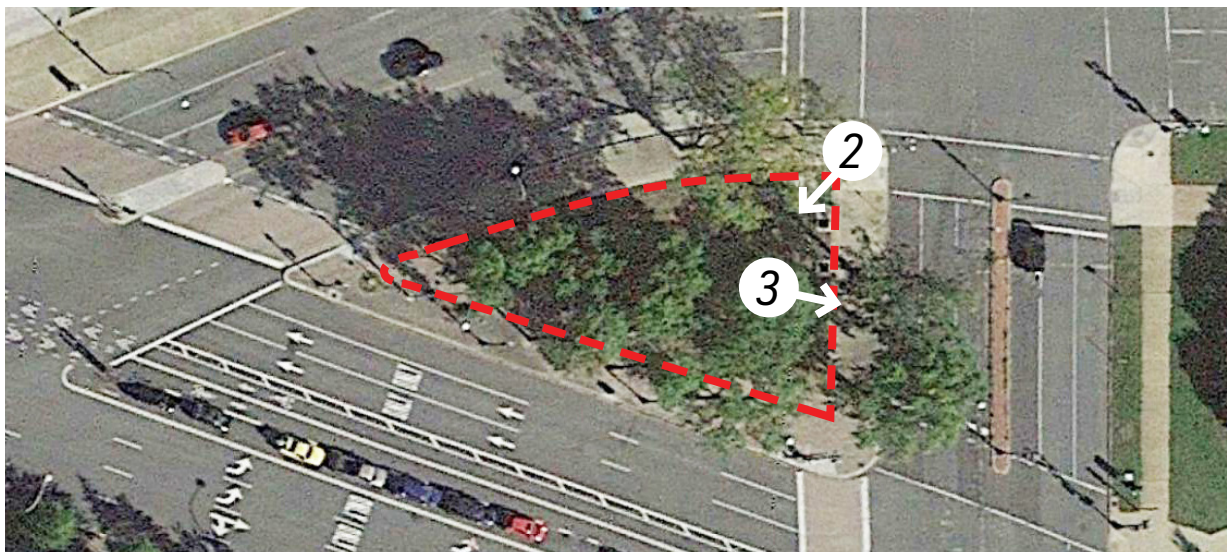
## Viable Site D: Pennsylvania Avenue & Constitution Avenue NW



**2:** View southwest across Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



**3:** View southeast towards the U.S. Capitol Building (AECOM, 7/2021)









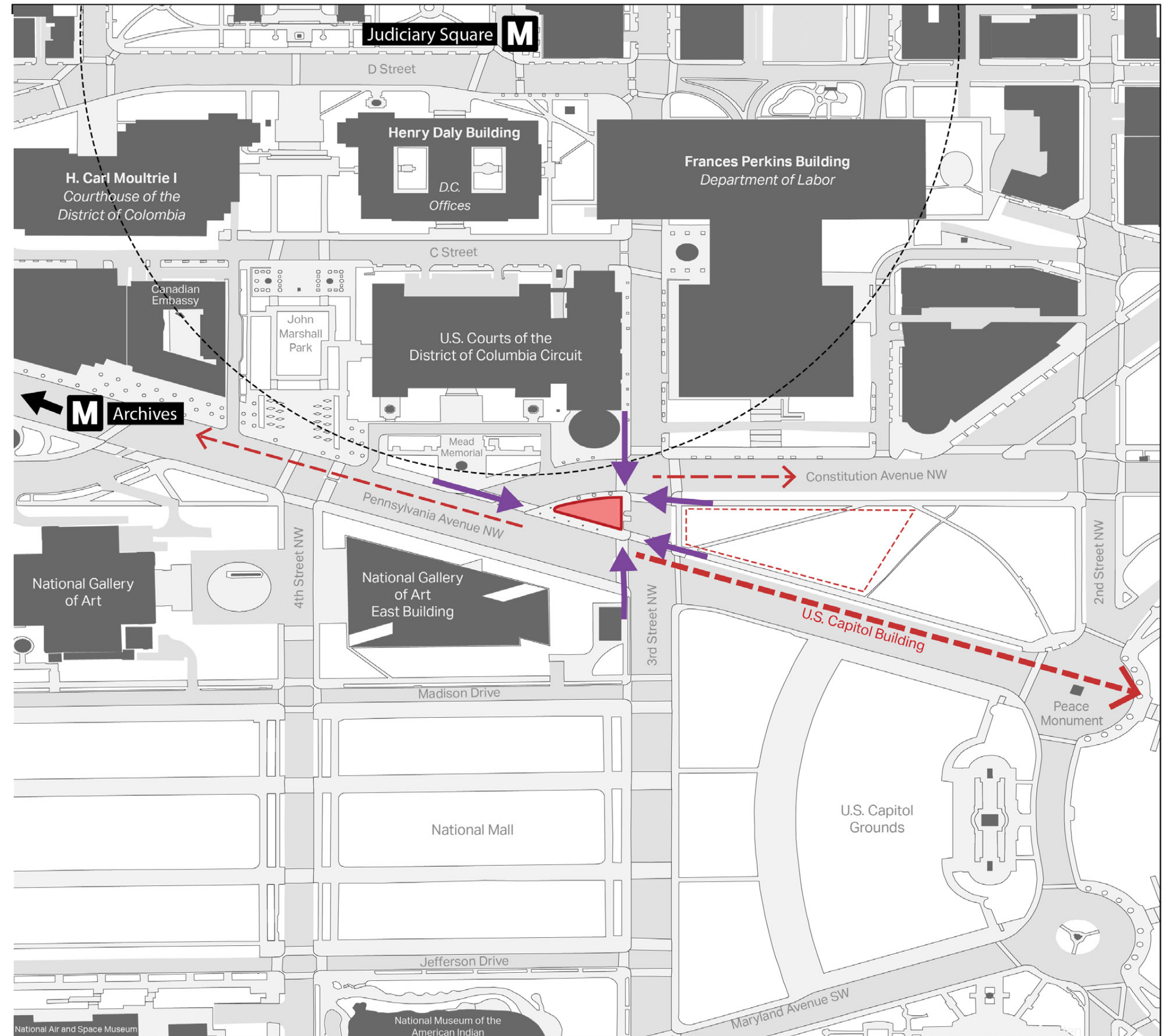


## Site Analysis: Site D

### Pennsylvania Avenue & Constitution Avenue NW

- The site is a 6-minute walk from the Judiciary Metrorail station (Red line) and an 8-minute walk from the Archives Metrorail station (Green / Yellow lines)
- The primary viewshed is southeast along Pennsylvania Ave NW to the U.S. Capitol Building. Secondary, multi-directional views from the site extend east along Constitution Avenue NW, and northwest along Pennsylvania Avenue.
- Pedestrians have multiple access points to the site using crosswalks from adjacent parcels.
- The site has the potential to accommodate special events in the open space to the east, across 3rd Street NW.
- The site contains multiple utility maintenance and operations access points

-  Viable Memorial Site
-  Pedestrian Access
-  Views from Site
-  Potential Expanded Event Space
-  Metrorail Station
-  5-minute Walking Radius from Metrorail Station

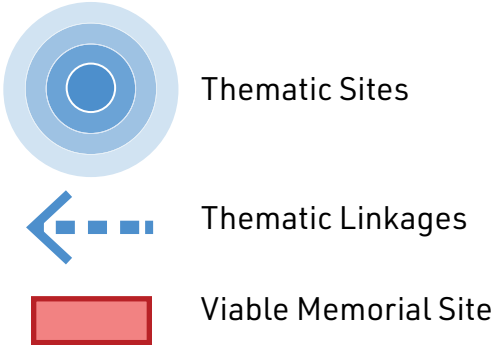
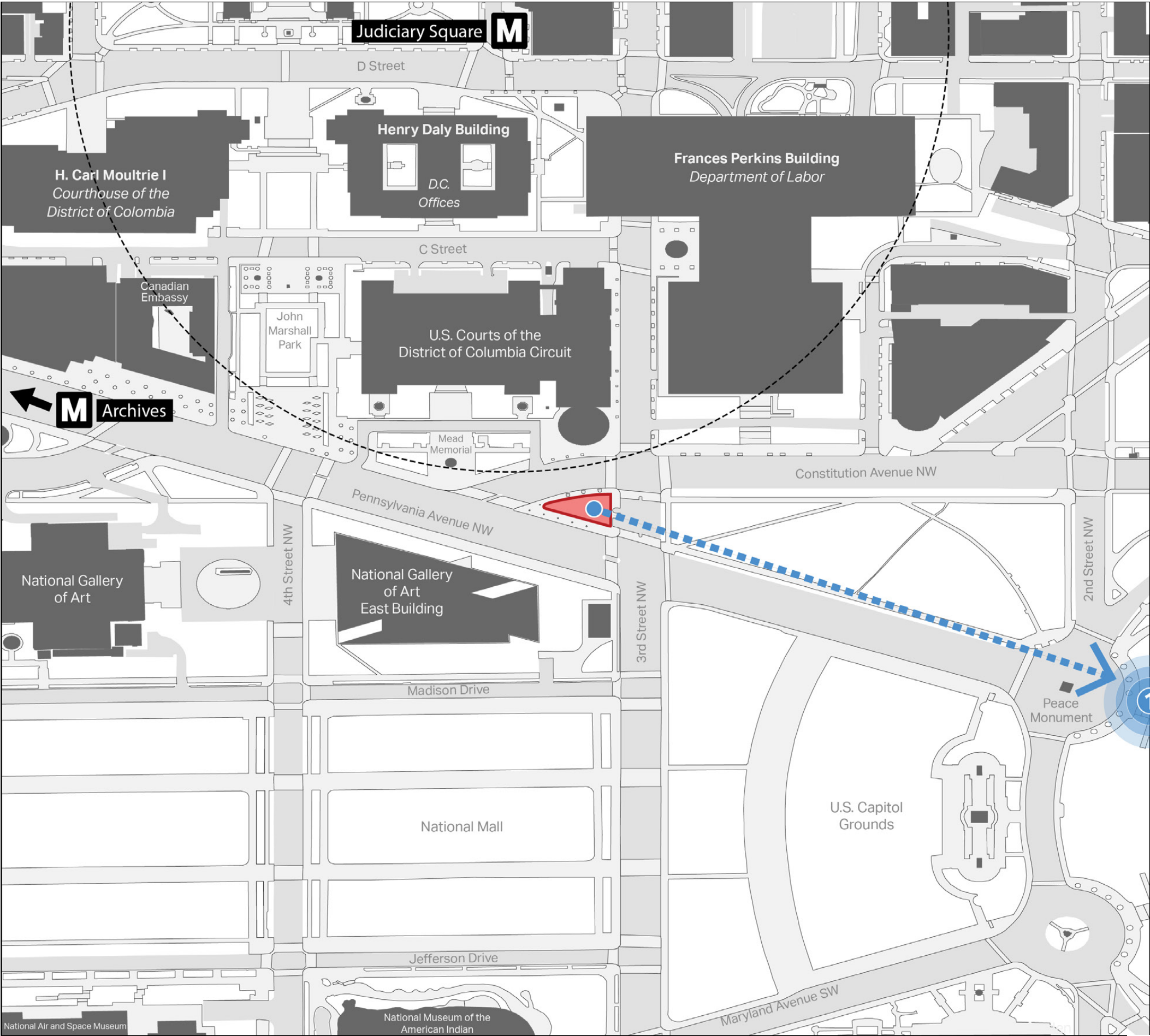


Thematic Links: Site D

Pennsylvania Avenue & Constitution Avenue NW

1. U.S. Capitol Building

Adjacent to the U.S. Capitol grounds and with a direct, axial view of the Capitol Dome, the site has a strong visual connection to the seat of the legislative branch of the U.S. federal government.



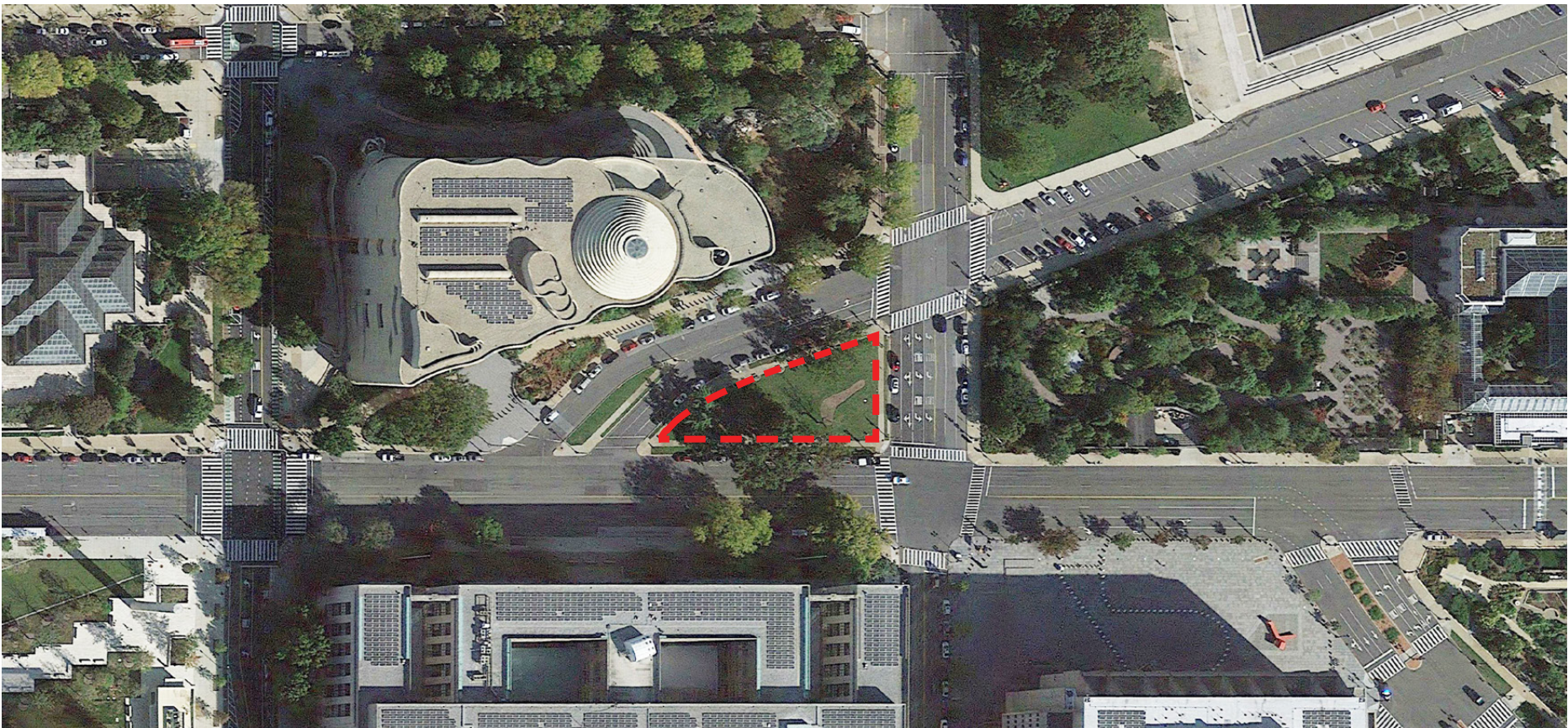


Viable Site 0: Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SW



Site Location: Southwest      Site Size: ~0.31 acres      Area I Location: Yes

Site Criteria	Notes
Program Suitability	Could accommodate permanent commemorative feature and gatherings; possible closure of Maryland Avenue for events
Thematic Nexus	Across Independence Avenue SW from Voice of America Headquarters and two blocks from U.S. Capitol; clear view of U.S. Capitol dome from site
Universal Accessibility	Two blocks from Metrorail station. Offers locations for those covering U.S. government and legislative process
Site Prominence and Visibility	Adjacent to U.S. Capitol Grounds and National Museum of the American Indian; one block from National Mall, Eisenhower and American Veterans Disabled for Live Memorials
Independence	Bordered on all sides by roadways
Site Availability	NPS jurisdiction
Transportation Access	A 4-minute walk from the Federal Center SW, a 7-minute walk from the L'Enfant Plaza, and a 16-minute walk from the Archives Metrorail stations
Tranquility	Location along busy Independence Avenue SW and less busy Maryland Avenue
Infrastructure	No known conflicts are present.



1: View northeast



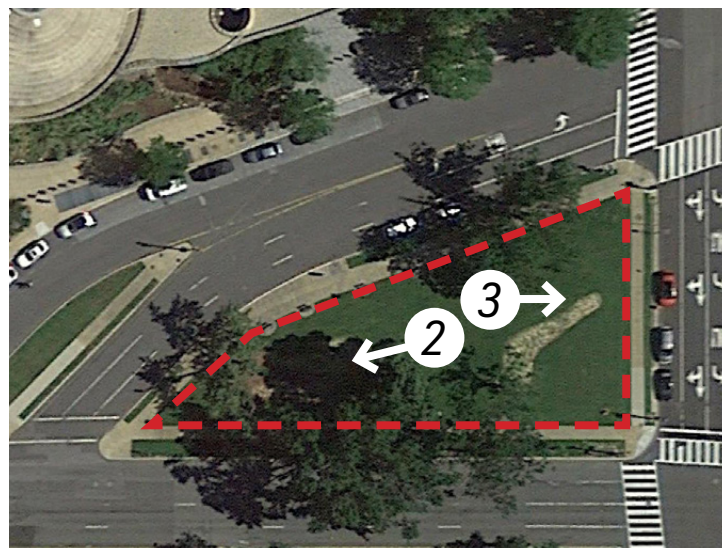
## Viable Site 0: Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SW



**2:** View southwest (AECOM, 5/2021)



**3:** View east (AECOM, 5/2021)









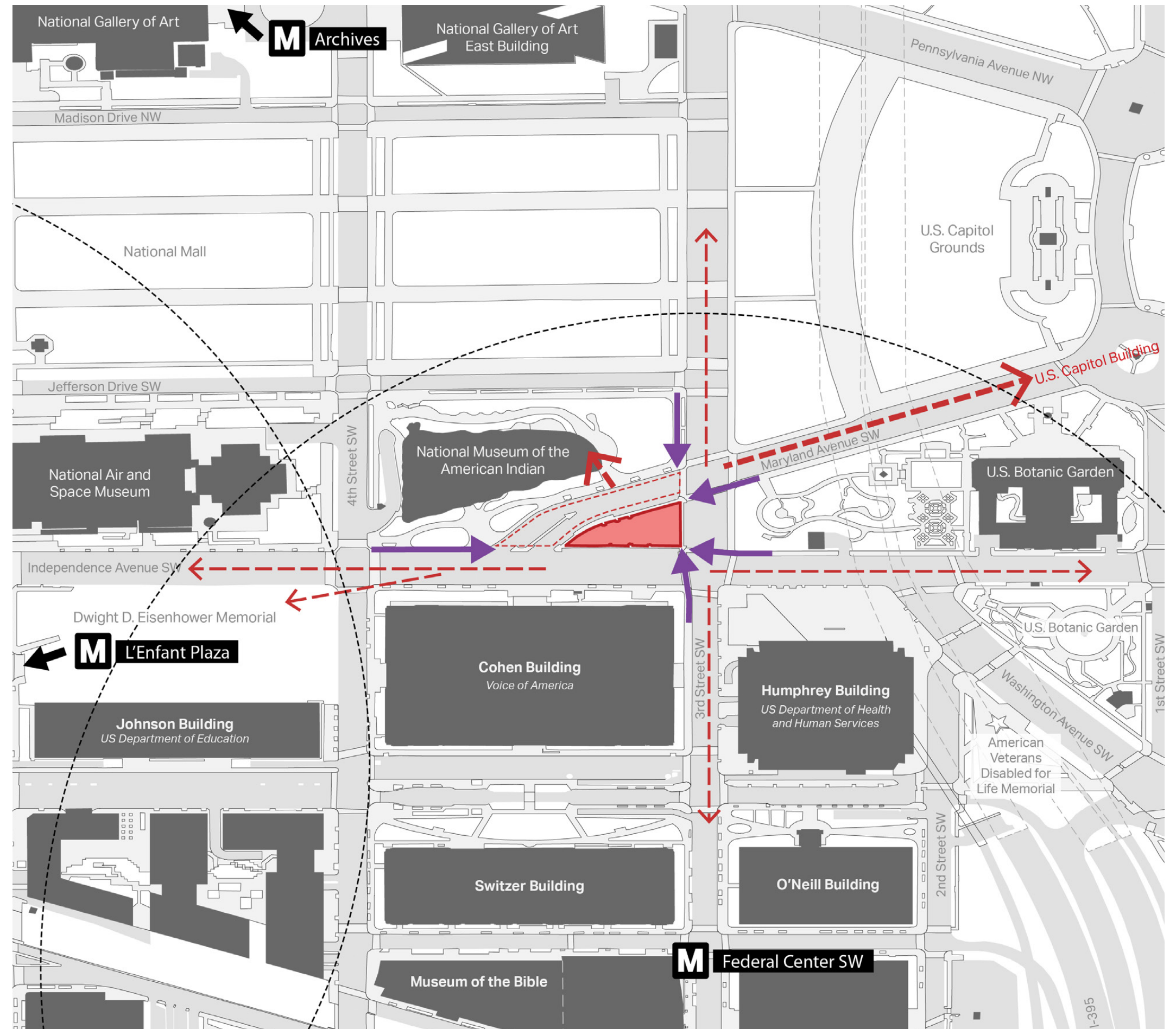


## Site Analysis: Site 0

### Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd St SW

- The site is a 4-minute walk from the Federal Center SW Metrorail station (Blue / Orange / Silver lines), a 7-minute walk from the L'Enfant Metrorail station (Green / Yellow / Blue / Orange / Silver lines) and a 16 minute walk from the Archives Metrorail station (Green/Yellow lines).
- The primary viewshed is northeast along Maryland Ave SW to the U.S. Capitol Building and immediately north to the east facade of the National Museum of the American Indian. Secondary, multi-directional views from the site extend east and west along Independence Avenue SW, north and south along 3rd Street SW and southwest toward the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial.
- Pedestrians have multiple access points to the site using crosswalks from adjacent parcels.
- The site has the potential to accommodate special events through the temporary closure of Maryland Avenue between 3rd Street SW and Independence Avenue SW.
- The vicinity of the site contains a rich commemorative landscape honoring presidents and veterans, and potentially EMS workers.

-  Viable Memorial Site
-  Pedestrian Access
-  Views from Site
-  Potential Expanded Event Space
-  Metrorail Station
-  5-minute Walking Radius from Metrorail Station





## Thematic Links: Site 0

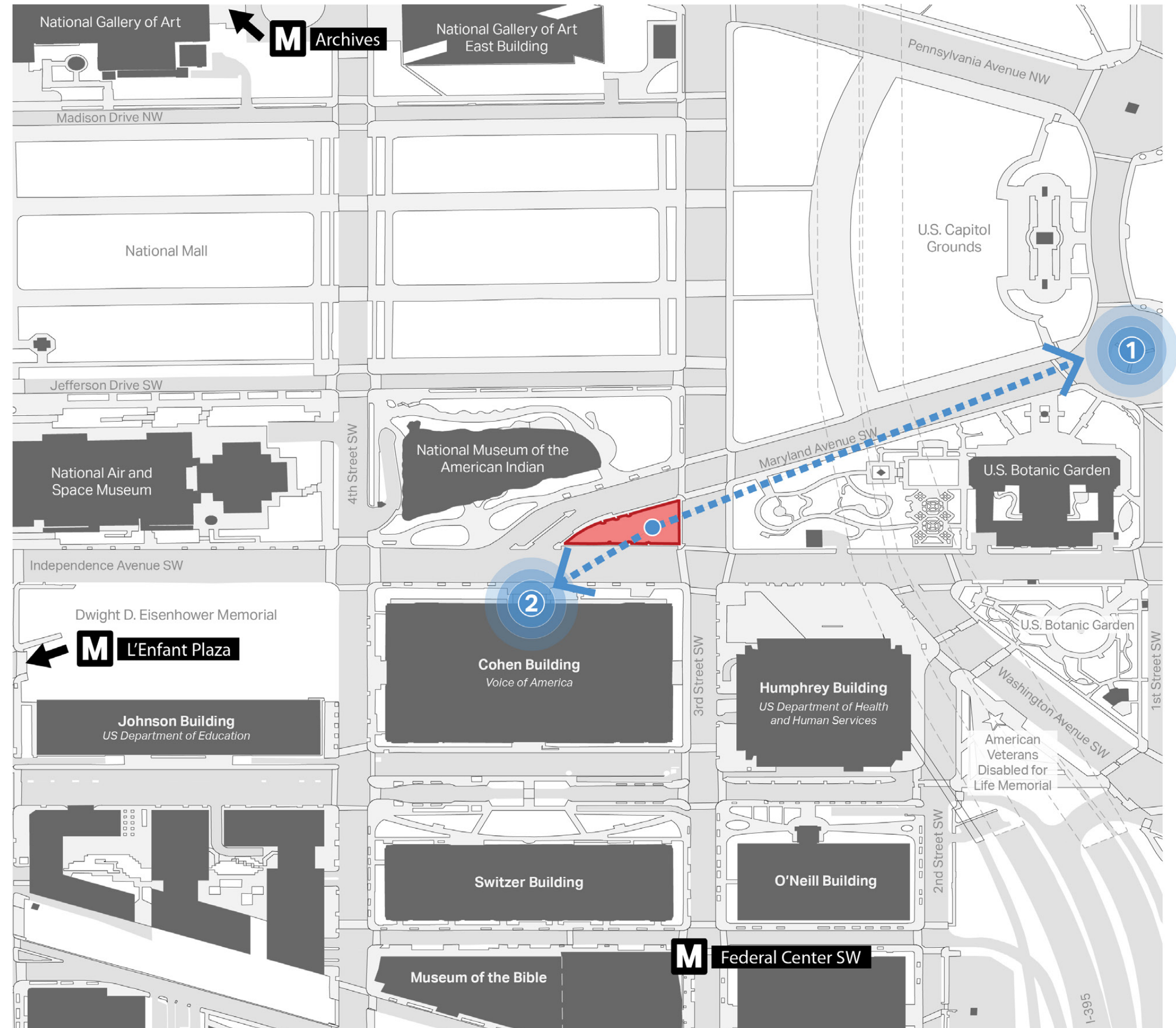
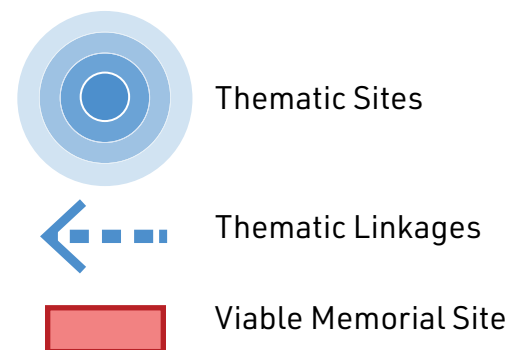
### Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd St SW

#### 1. US Capitol Building

Adjacent to the U.S. Capitol grounds and with a direct, axial, and reciprocal view of the Capitol Dome, the site has a strong visual connection to the seat of the legislative branch of the U.S. federal government.

#### 2. Voice of America (Cohen Building)

Directly north of the Cohen Building, the site has a strong visual connection to the headquarters of Voice of America, the oldest and largest American international broadcaster. Voice of America produces media in 47 languages and distributes throughout the world.



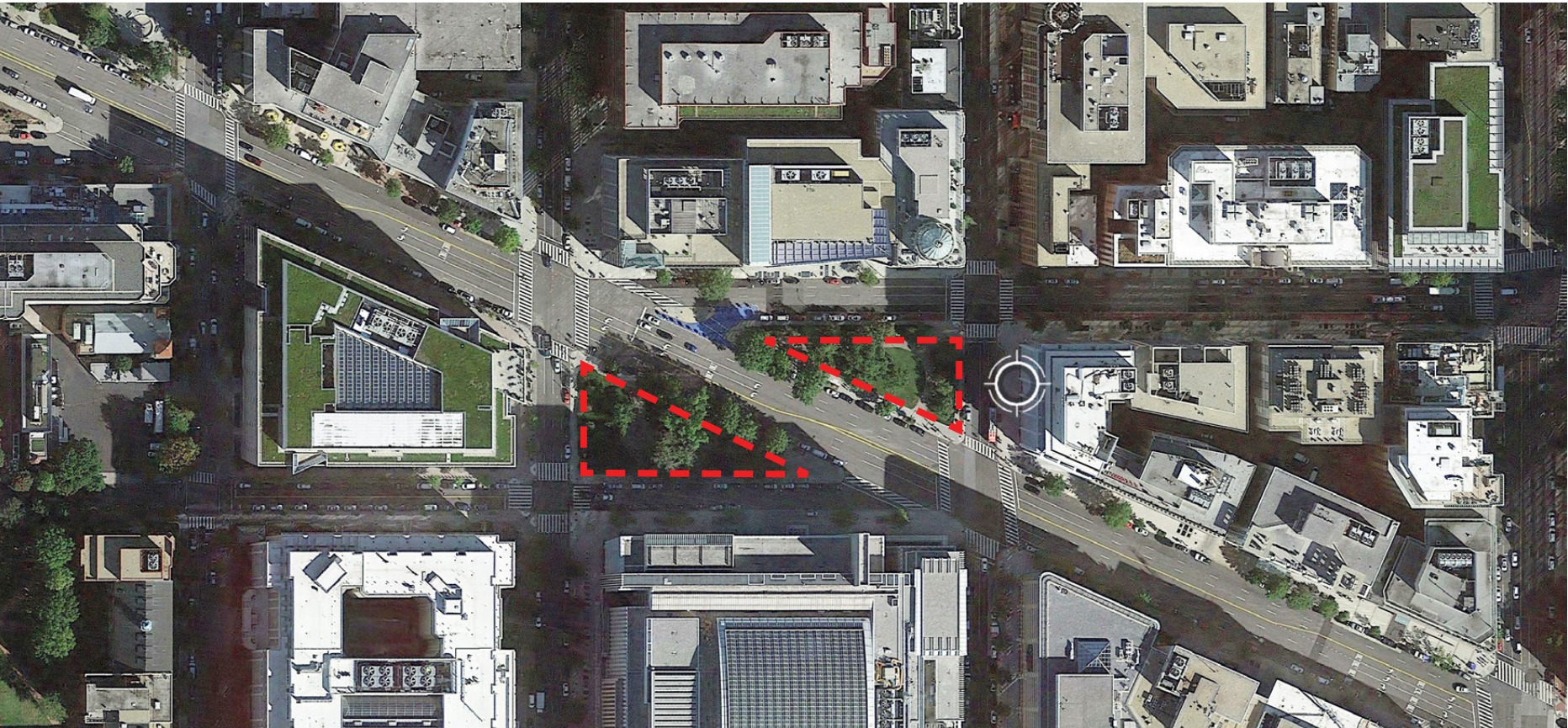


Viable Site T: Edward R. Murrow Park (between 18th and 19th Streets NW)



Site Location: Northwest      Site Size: ~0.75 acres      Area I Location: No

Site Criteria	Notes
Program Suitability	Site could accommodate permanent commemorative feature and gatherings
Thematic Nexus	Connection to park's namesake, Edward R. Murrow; two blocks from George Washington University's School of Media and Public Affairs
Universal Accessibility	One block from Metrorail station. Offers access to iconic Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Site Prominence and Visibility	Location in commercial and institutional area along Pennsylvania Avenue NW; four blocks from White House
Independence	Bordered on all sides by roadways
Site Availability	NPS jurisdiction
Transportation Access	A 2-minute walk from the Farragut West and a 7-minute walk from the Farragut North Metrorail stations
Tranquility	Location along busy Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Infrastructure	No known conflicts are present.



1: View southwest



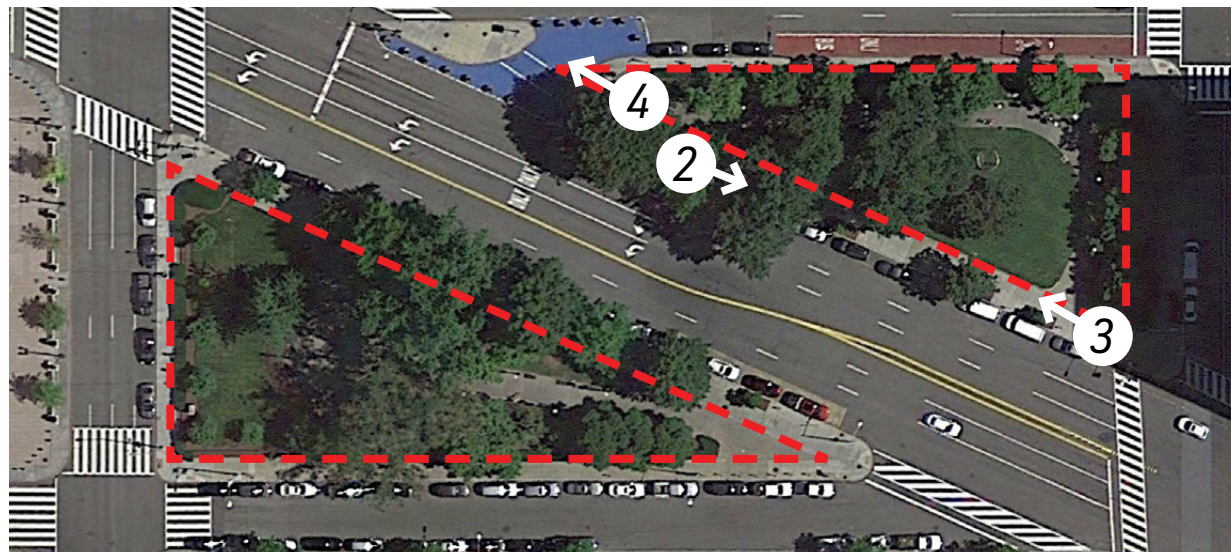
## Viable Site T: Edward R. Murrow Park (between 18th and 19th Streets NW)



**2:** View southeast on north side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



**3:** View northwest on north side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



**4:** View northwest on north side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)





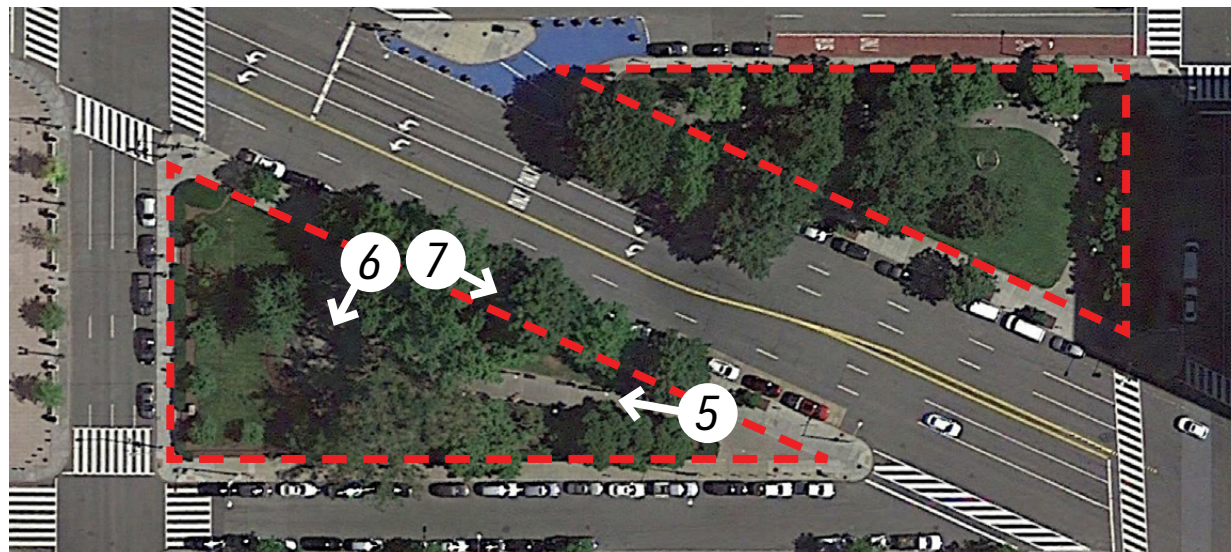
## Viable Site T: Edward R. Murrow Park (between 18th and 19th Streets NW)



**5:** View east on south side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



**6:** View south on south side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



**7:** View southeast on south side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)









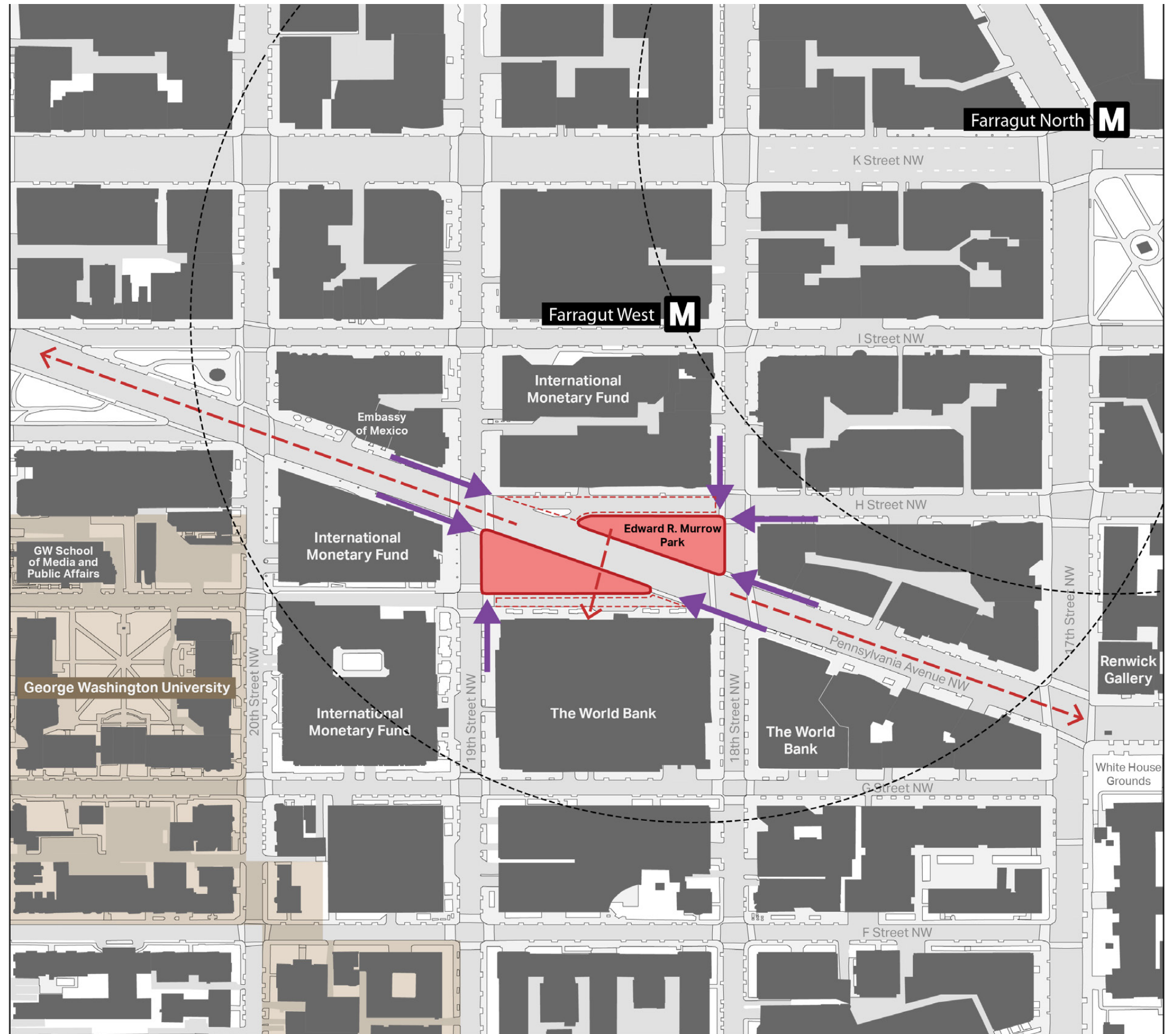


## Site Analysis: Site T

### Edward R. Murrow Park (between 18th and 19th Streets NW)

- The site is a 2 minute walk from the Farragut West Metrorail station (Blue/Orange/Silver lines), and a 7 minute walk from the Farragut North Metrorail station (Red line).
- The primary viewsheds are southeast and northwest along Pennsylvania Avenue.
- Pedestrians have multiple access points to the site using crosswalks from adjacent parcels.
- Expanded event space could be achieved with the closure of H St between 18th Street NW and 19th Street NW Avenue SW.

-  Viable Memorial Site
-  Pedestrian Access
-  Views from Site
-  Potential Expanded Event Space
-  Metrorail Station
-  5-minute Walking Radius from Metrorail Station





Thematic Links: Site T

Edward R. Murrow Park (between 18th and 19th Streets NW)

1. Edward R. Murrow Park

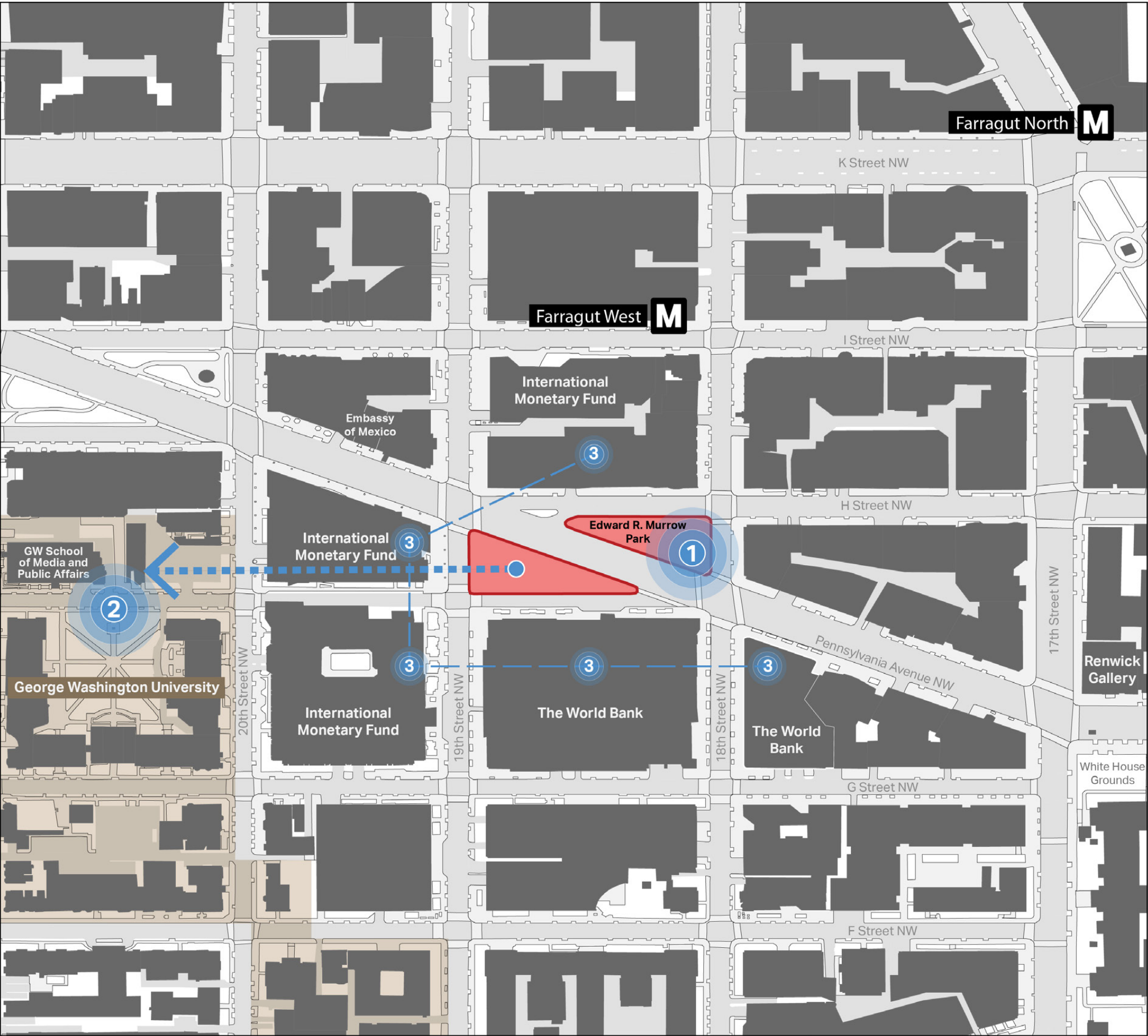
Park dedicated to Edward R. Murrow who was an esteemed and influential American radio and television broadcast journalist and war correspondent. He was appointed director of the U.S. Information Agency in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy.

2. George Washington University, School of Media and Public Affairs

The nearby GWU School of Media and Public Affairs focuses on the study of communication, journalism and media.

3. International Organizations

Multiple organizations with global missions surround the site.





Memorials and Museums Master Plan: Edward R. Murrow Park

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Edward Murrow Park (18th-19th St) or James Monroe Park (20th-21st St)  
On Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Site 44

Location:



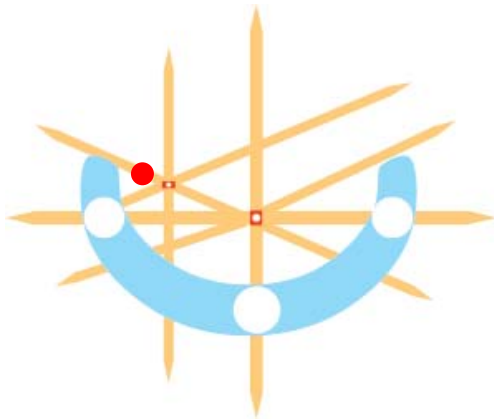
Site Description Summary:

These existing public spaces provide similar passive recreational and interpretive opportunities for residents, employees, and tourists. Their triangular parcels are presently defined by open landscaped spaces that contrast with nearby higher density office and commercial uses. Their location within the highly visible Pennsylvania Avenue corridor makes these parks appropriate for future memorials. Existing conditions include landscaped terraces with seating and generally level terrain. These parcels represent nodes within this prominent corridor from the White House to Washington Circle.

Commemorative Opportunity:

Several opportunities exist to incorporate future commemorative features within these public parks. New memorials within these parcels could include both understated elements that would maintain present conditions or dramatic features that would reshape the character of these sites. This range of potential commemorative actions is possible due to the relative absence of highly visible memorials within this section of Pennsylvania Avenue. This corridor would benefit from greater definition of these existing public spaces. Any memorial planned for Monroe or Morrow Parks should contain ancillary interpretive media on the lives of these historic figures.

Framework Context:



Physical Characteristics:

Location:	Northwest
Acreage:	0.25 - 1.0
Configuration:	Triangular
Overall Character:	Open/Landscaped
Terrain:	Flat
Adjoining Uses:	Mixed Use

Visual Quality:

Prominent Views:	District/Federal Elements
Vistas:	District/Federal Elements
Existing Setting:	Special Street/Parkland
Potential Setting:	same
Gateway Corridor:	Yes

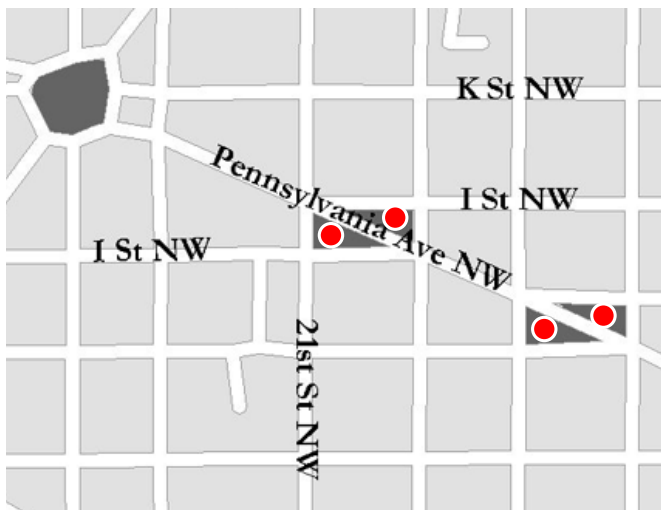
Urban Design Framework:

Relative Prominence:	District/Federal
Comp. Plan Element:	Special Street
Framework Element:	Monumental Corridor
Plan Compatibility:	Consistent
Memorial Proximity:	Walk
Potential Identity:	Yes

Historic & Cultural Resources:

Historic Resources:	Landmark, Special Street
Cultural Resources:	Building, Street, Landscape
Historic District:	NA
Arts/Entertainment District:	Yes
Embassy Proximity:	Yes
Memorial Zone:	2
Museum Proximity:	Walk

Vicinity:



Site Access:

Vehicular Corridor:	Yes - Pennsylvania Ave.
Metrorail Proximity:	Good - Foggy Bottom, Farragut West
Metrobus Proximity:	Good
Pedestrian Access:	Good
Parking Availability:	Good
Intermodal Station Proximity:	Yes - Metro/Circulator
Circulator Node Proximity:	No
Water Access:	No

Site Image



View of park on Pennsylvania Avenue between 18th & 19th Streets that could accommodate a small scale memorial feature within the established setting of this prominent corridor.

Profile:

Development Term:	Present
Ownership:	NPS
ANC:	2A
Current Development Project:	NA
NPS Reservations:	028/030
NPS Park Name:	Triangle
NPS Total Park Acreage:	1.35



# AREA I LOCATION



## Area I Location

The Commemorative Works Act allows for the location of a memorial within Area I if it is determined that the subject “is of preeminent historical and lasting significance to the United States.”

The enabling legislation calls for the commemoration of “America’s commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause.” Although the memorial will honor journalists who have died carrying out their profession, the primary commemoration is of freedom of the press as listed in the Constitution. As a result, the preeminent historical and lasting significance of the Fallen Journalists Memorial to the United States is illustrated by the:

- Role of a free press and the First Amendment in advancing and preserving freedom at key junctures in American and world history
- Function of journalism as a watchdog to hold government institutions accountable to the public
- Service to the public as witnesses to history, even while standing in harm’s way
- Provision of news and information ranging from the local community to global scale
- Inspiration to the world as a beacon of freedom
- Values and service that transcend technological change

The memorial sponsors have invited academic scholars, historians, prominent journalists and other experts in the field of journalism to provide commentary on the topics above.

*“An independent press is the essential addition to the three branches of government.”*

– Tom Rosenstiel, Author

*“A free and robust press represents one of our most essential institutions at a time when its future remains unclear.”*

– Rick Hutzell, Former Editor of the Capitol Gazette

*“Journalists in other countries have perished in larger numbers because they dared to report honestly about their governments, corruption, crime and human rights. In many cases, their inspiration has been the tradition of American journalism that has held power accountable ever since the early days of our republic.”*

– Leonard Downie Jr., Weil Family Professor of Journalism, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism, Arizona State University



# **APPENDIX**

## **Additional Site Evaluation**

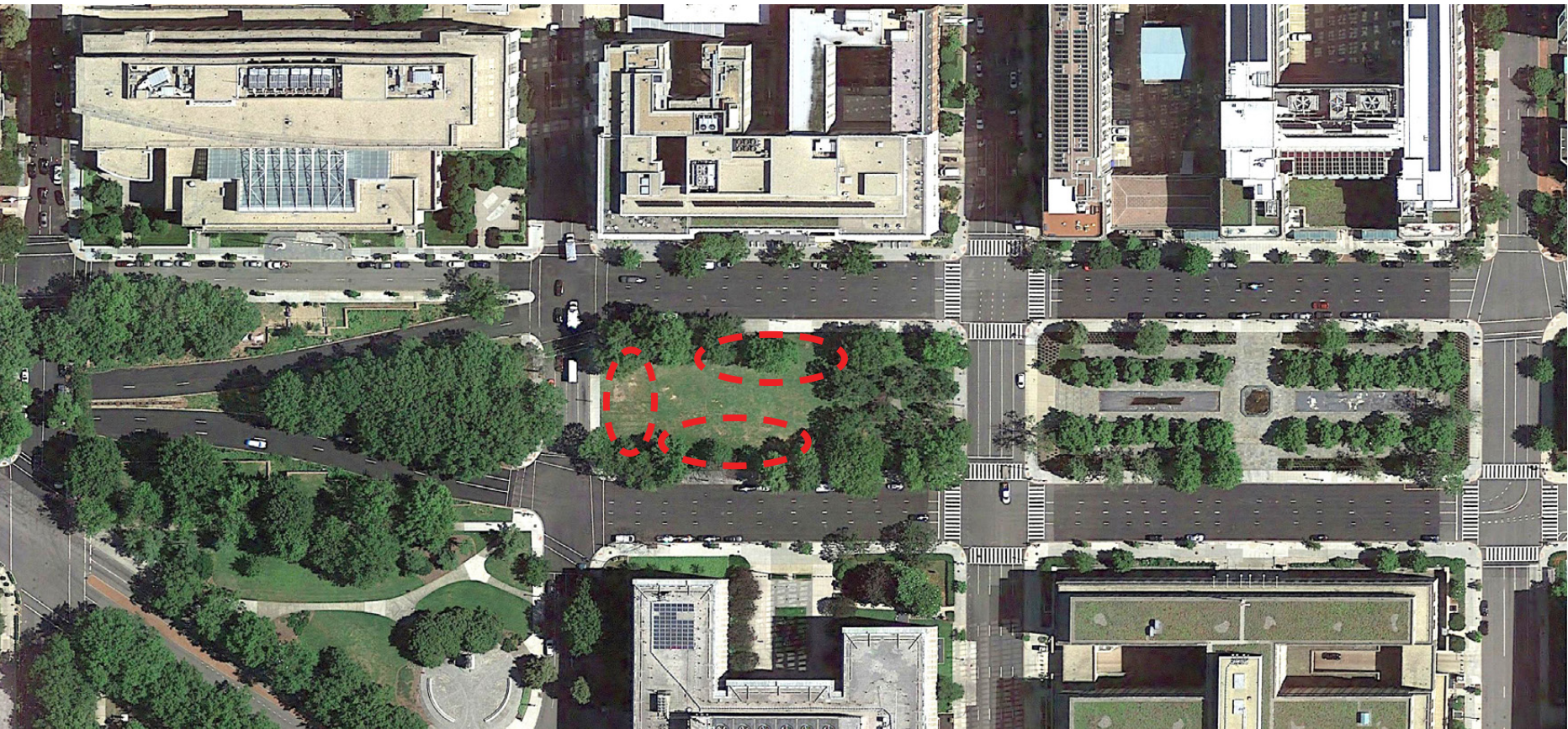


Potential Site X: Walt Whitman Park



Site Location: Northwest      Site Size: ~0.95 acres      Area I Location: No

Site Criteria	Notes
Program Suitability	Site could accommodate permanent commemorative feature and gatherings
Thematic Nexus	Adjacent to George Washington University's Elliot School of International Affairs
Universal Accessibility	Good pedestrian access from multiple directions; poor Metrorail access, but is served by Metrobus
Site Prominence and Visibility	Site sits along the E Street corridor between the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the White House; located in a federal office building area
Independence	Bordered on all sides by roadways
Site Availability	NPS jurisdiction
Transportation Access	A 10-minute walk from the Farragut West and a 15-minute walk from the Farragut North Metrorail stations
Tranquility	Location along busy E Street NW
Infrastructure	No known conflicts are present



1: View north



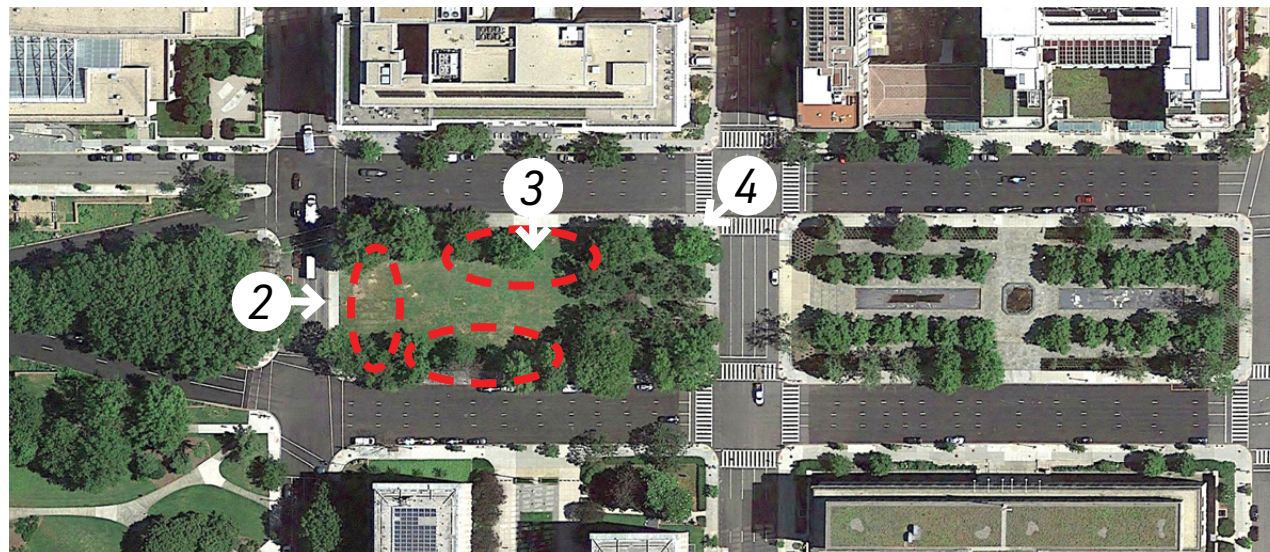
## Potential Site X: Walt Whitman Park



2: View from 20th St, facing east



3: View from 20th St, facing east



4: View southwest





Memorials and Museums Master Plan: Walt Whitman Park

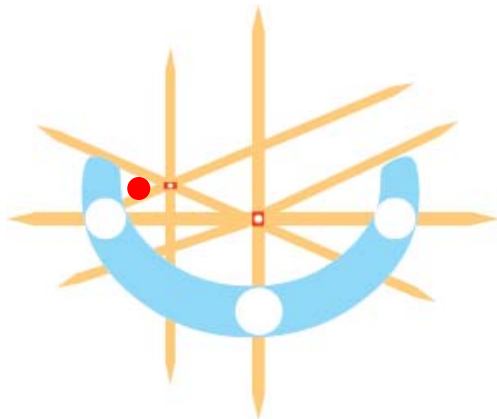
62

Walt Whitman Park, along E Street between 19th and 20th Streets, NW Site 11

Location:



Framework Context:



Vicinity:



Site Description Summary

This site location, along E Street between 19th and 20th Streets, NW, is in the Foggy Bottom area west of the White House. The site location is along the E Street corridor at the point where the expressway emerges from its tunnel. The two-acre site has a slightly rolling topography and is primarily green with an open, urban feel. Known as Walt Whitman Park, the eastern quarter of this rectangular site is a playground, while the remainder is a landscaped lawn surrounded by a tree buffer.

Urban Design Conditions

Located at a designated Special Place at the intersection of Special Streets, this site location reinforces the Monumental Corridors component of the Urban Design Framework. The east end of the site has an indirect axial relationship with the White House via New York Avenue. Just west of the site is Virginia Avenue, which provides a direct relationship with the Washington Monument. The site location is within walking distance of other historic and cultural resources, including the Kennedy Center and architecturally significant federal office buildings, such as the historic Department of the Interior and the General Services Administration buildings.

Economic Conditions

The Walt Whitman Park site location offers the potential to accommodate a feature that attracts high visitor traffic, such as a major memorial. However, the economic nature of the area, with existing office and State Department buildings, creates questions about how and where new economic activities would occur. With proper incentives and public/private investment, this site would be highly suitable for a commemorative feature, possibly in partnership with George Washington University. The office buildings presently provide daytime economic activity; the challenge would be to bring new economic benefits north of Virginia Avenue on evenings and weekends.

Transportation Conditions

This site has better passenger vehicle access than public transportation access. The park is located one block away from Virginia Avenue, a major vehicular corridor with nearby public parking facilities including both on-street and garage parking. There is poor Metrorail access with the closest station being Farragut West, located approximately 2,500 feet from the site. Metrobus is directly available. There is a possibility that the Circulator might be routed near the park if the demand is high, however, it is more likely that the route will be closer to the Mall.

Environmental Conditions

The site location features slightly rolling topography consisting of an open lawn area, with ornamental trees on the edges. There are no water resources near the site, and no adverse noise or air quality conditions are present. There also is no evidence of contamination on or near the site.



Memorials and Museums Master Plan: Walt Whitman Park

Walt Whitman Park, along E Street between 19th and 20th Streets, NW

Site 11 63

Commemorative Opportunity:

Jurisdiction: Federal – National Park Service

This location presents the opportunity to locate one or more small memorials in an existing urban park setting. The park area is approximately one acre in size. The E Street site to the west of 20th Street could also be developed as either a federal memorial location or as a District commemorative site, giving the precinct an attractive pedestrian-oriented park character.

Memorial development would enhance the current open, passive parkland setting of the site in addition to helping transform the E Street corridor into a memorial boulevard space. The transportation characteristics of this site are most compatible with a memorial that will generate a low to moderate number of visitors. A large number of visitors to this location would warrant the provision of additional public transportation facilities such as the Circulator.

Due to the topography, location, and surrounding uses in the area of the site, memorial development would likely require only minor site alterations, including limited grading and no stabilization or utility improvements.

Any future memorial in this location should incorporate some form of interpretive resources related to the life and work of Walt Whitman.



The image above depicts a view looking east from Walt Whitman Park.

Design Considerations:



This site is located within an established public parkland area that is defined by a perimeter of prominent federal and institutional office uses.

1. This location on a major transportation corridor is a gateway to Downtown and is near the White House and President's Park.
2. The E Street corridor has the potential to become a thematic memorial boulevard. This primary location could accommodate a major memorial on the boulevard.
3. The existing urban park is near an enclave of federal office buildings and a memorial could complement these uses. A memorial park would also provide relief to pedestrians and office workers in the area.
4. Memorial design and development in this location should retain and enhance the current urban park setting and open space character, and should respect the urban scale of the park and the surrounding buildings.
5. The opportunity exists to develop a pedestrian-oriented destination memorial at this location.
6. The design should complement the design of nearby Rawlins Park.
7. The site is located where the E Street tunnel rises to grade to become a wide boulevard. The opportunity exists to create a major feature at this point of arrival in the city.



# **Fallen Journalists**

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## **MEMORIAL FOUNDATION**

### **Essay submissions on the Fallen Journalists Memorial for the meeting of the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission October 5, 2021**

1. Michael Beschloss, American Historian
2. Clarence Page, Columnist and Editorial Board Member, Chicago Tribune
3. Paul Goldberger, Contributing Editor, *Vanity Fair*
4. Leonard Downie Jr., Professor of Journalism, Arizona State University
5. Earnest L. Perry Jr., Ph.D., Associate Dean, Missouri School of Journalism
6. Amanda Bennett, Former Director, Voice of America
7. Rick Hutzell, Former Editor, Capital Gazette, Annapolis, Maryland
8. Tom Rosenstiel, Professor of Journalism, University of Maryland
9. Carl Bernstein, Journalist and Author



# Journalists Keep the Flame of Democracy Alive

By Michael Beschloss

Presidential Historian

Since the United States was founded, our Nation has honored eminent historical figures with memorials that recognize their contributions to American democracy — Presidents, other political leaders, religious figures, military heroes, teachers, physicians and others. Just as important as these patriots, but too seldom noted, are the journalists who have risked and sometimes given their lives so that we and our heirs could have the chance of living in a free and open society.

Freedom of the press is, of course, protected by the Constitution, yet I would speculate that if a representative group of Americans were asked to list the people who deserve credit for helping to protect and expand our democracy, not many would mention journalists, and even fewer would know many of the names of those who have fallen in the line of duty.

A national memorial in a prominent and visible location would help to rectify that. It will not only give those journalists who have made that sacrifice the honor and prominence they deserve — just as, for instance, we honor all of those who gave their lives at war in Southeast Asia with the Vietnam Memorial on the Mall. It would also honor the central role that our Founders, our Constitution and other traditions envisioned for a free press as a guardian of American democracy.

In Europe, the press was sometimes described as the “Fourth Estate” — as it still is today — to convey the expectation that journalists would have the same important influence on society and politics as other “estates of the realm,” such as the clergy, nobility and citizens. In an interview, President John F. Kennedy once said that although it was “never pleasant to be reading things that are not agreeable news,” a free press was “invaluable” to government and, for the Presidency, “a check really on what is going on in the administration, and more things come to my attention that cause me concern or give me information. . . . There isn’t any doubt that we could not do the job at all in a free society without a very, very active press.” Kennedy could not know that he would soon



have to give his life for his country, but he knew that this danger was always present, and he accepted it.

The same profile in courage applies to journalists in American society. All journalists write or say things that may anger a substantial number of people. While campaigning for President in 1968, Governor George Wallace, from the stage, would list names of what he considered to be hostile reporters who were present, and some of the attendees worried that the angry mob would physically endanger those whom Wallace had singled out as enemies.

Those reporters who cover a war, a domestic disturbance, a street crime, or a political event that could turn unexpectedly violent know that at any time, they could be killed, yet the importance and nobility of their work impel them to make that sacrifice. Reporters who brave a hurricane, a wildfire, a rockslide or a pandemic in order to inform the public and show people how to protect themselves and their families and friends know that those natural furies could kill them.

Before the American Revolution, reporters who described and warned of British atrocities knew that their journalistic service could cost them their lives. So did those who reported on our Revolutionary War and described the evils of slavery or the plight of children forced to work in dangerous factories. Ernie Pyle, described as the most famous American war correspondent of World War II, was killed by Japanese machine guns as he reported on the closing chapters of that conflagration.

Muckrakers bravely defied corrupt city bosses to expose political corruption. Throughout American history, there is evidence of political leaders on both the local and national levels privately discussing the possible murder of journalists who questioned what they were doing. In the Civil War, Spanish-American War, two world wars and later, journalists resisted efforts by political and military leaders to conceal their mistakes and excesses by official censorship, and courageously showed Americans where their leaders were falling short. By exposing atrocities in such places as My Lai and Abu Ghraib, reporters reminded Americans that even our justly venerated military heroes will not always act with perfect wisdom.



Our Founders felt strongly about freedom of information. They wanted the American system to be the opposite of those closed societies of Europe, where the King or Queen made the decisions, disagreement was silenced and documents that showed their mistakes and shortcomings were destroyed or covered up. The American Founders believed that we could only achieve the society they dreamt of if there was open and available information that would show Americans both the mistakes and the accomplishments of earlier generations of Americans and those of their own time.

Without courageous journalists willing to risk their lives, if necessary, American leaders would not have access to the full information they need to lead, citizens would lack the facts they need to participate in the democratic process and historians like myself would lack the written and spoken record we require in order to describe for later Americans our successes, our errors and our tragedies in order to help future Americans to create a better society.

Throughout our history, brave journalists have been so essential to keeping the flame of American democracy alive that it is astounding to me that, before now, they have never been properly honored by a national memorial. As many of our Founders said, American democracy will always be fragile and will always require constant vigilance. I believe that an important part of that vigilance is to remind both Americans and others around the world how central a free press is in guarding our democracy. An inspiring national memorial in a location of prominence would do that. I hope that we rise to this challenge.



**Michael Beschloss** is an American historian who specializes in the United States presidency. He has authored nine best-selling books on the presidency, chronicling the terms of Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, and Lyndon B. Johnson, among others. Beschloss also serves as Presidential Historian for NBC News and is a contributor to *The PBS Newshour*. A master in his field, he is well-versed in the critical role that a free press and the First Amendment have played throughout United States' history.



## Even in the Face of Danger, Journalists Keep Watch

By Clarence Page  
Columnist and member,  
*Chicago Tribune* Editorial Board

Thank you very much for this opportunity to express my hope that the proposed Fallen Journalists Memorial will be placed in a prominent location near the National Mall.

As a permanent memorial to journalists—including reporters, photojournalists, producers and editors, who have died in pursuit of the truth—this memorial should have a location that expresses the high value that our Republic invests in the freedoms of speech and the press as an assurance that government rules by the consent of the governed.

A prominent location near the top offices of government will offer a highly visible statement of how the role performed by journalists is no less important than that of the leaders and institutions that they cover.

Thomas Jefferson had his own blistering run-ins with the press in his day. Yet, if asked to choose between “a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government,” he famously wrote to an associate, “I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.”

With that, one assumes Jefferson was paying tribute to the watchdog role played by the press, as well as the eyes and ears media provide that take us into war zones and other places that we cannot—or would rather not—go.

This monument will commemorate the sacrifices of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, losing their lives while on assignment in a profession that, above all, should aim to provide service to the public. It will also provide a place for reflection for those who are personally connected to fallen journalists and a focus of contemplation for the people.

It is my hope that the memorial can help to provide some positive inspiration, particularly to young aspiring journalists as I was more than a half-century ago.

As a teenager in the early 1960s, I was inspired by stories about reporter-columnists like Ernest T. “Ernie” Pyle, the Pulitzer-Prize winner who took his talents to war zones as a correspondent in World War II. Writing six columns a week, he gained unusual fame with his human interest angles, focusing on the “dogface” GI’s more than the generals.

Alas, he didn’t make it back. He joined the ranks of the fallen during the Battle of Okinawa. As a journalism professor recounted later, “there was hardly a dry eye in America.”

But I found inspiration much farther back in history. As a young African American growing up in the last days of Jim Crow segregation, I felt I owed a debt to Elijah Parish Lovejoy, a Presbyterian minister and abolitionist editor of the *Alton Observer* in southern Illinois.



Pressured to leave St. Louis after pro-slavery mobs destroyed his presses three times, he moved to Alton and later was killed by another pro-slavery mob in 1837. May he rest in peace.

Among others wartime notables are Irving W. Carson of the *New-York Tribune*, the first journalist to be killed during the U.S. Civil War—by a cannonball while covering General Ulysses S. Grant at the Battle of Shiloh—and Mark Kellogg of the Associated Press, who died with Gen. George Armstrong Custer at the battle of Little Bighorn, Montana.

As a board member on the Committee to Protect Journalists, I know that deadly attacks against reporters are rare in this country, compared to a lot of others. Nevertheless, I know of at least 40 killed on the job in my lifetime.

They include journalists of color like *Los Angeles Times* reporter Rubén Salazar, who was killed by deputies of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department while covering the Chicano Moratorium protest in a park in East Los Angeles in 1970. The park has since been renamed Salazar Park.

There also was WHUR-FM radio reporter Maurice Williams, a young African American in Washington, D.C. He was fatally shot in the city's District Building in 1977, the only death during a nationally-broadcast siege by a dozen Hanafi Muslim gunmen.

And there was my friend and colleague Chauncey Bailey, editor of California's *Oakland Post*, who was fatally shot in 2007 as he was investigating criminal activities connected to Your Black Muslim Bakery. The murder led to formation of the Chauncey Bailey Project by more than two dozen other journalists to continue his work and answer lingering questions about his death.

Sadly, considerably less attention was paid to five Vietnamese-American journalists for small publications serving refugee communities after the fall of Saigon in 1975 were killed mysteriously at different locations between 1981 and 1990. As a 2015 PBS Frontline and Pro-Publica documentary reported, FBI agents linked the killings to an organization led by former military commanders from South Vietnam. But the FBI never made a single arrest before the case was formally closed in the 1990s.

Much more recent were the widely-mourned death of four journalists—Gerald Fischman, Rob Hiaasen, John McNamara, and Wendi Winters—and sales associate Rebecca Smith at the *Capital Gazette* offices in Annapolis on June 28, 2018.

The convicted shooter reportedly had held a grudge against the newspaper since it published a story about his guilty plea in a criminal harassment case seven years earlier. No one would have thought of their jobs as life-threatening until that day—when suddenly they were.

Yet all of these cases reveal impressive commitment to their profession and their audiences. As a surviving *Capital Gazette* editor announced to his still-stunned colleagues on that awful day, "We've got a newspaper to put out." And they did.

And, as of this writing, they haven't stopped yet.



Journalistic resiliency often leaves us with little time for tears. But, even after our colleagues are lost to us, the best values and standards that guided them must always be remembered.



Pulitzer Prize-winner Clarence Page serves as a senior member of the *Chicago Tribune* editorial board and a go-to voice on broadcast for his analysis of American culture and politics. After graduating from college in 1969, Page accepted a position with the *Tribune* only to be drafted into the military six months later, where he worked as an Army reporter. Page returned to the *Tribune* in 1971 to cover urban affairs, African American identity, as well as a number of other pressing social and political issues. A U.S. veteran and veteran journalist, Page has received lifetime achievement awards from the Chicago Headline Club, the National Society of Newspaper Columnists, and the National Association of Black Journalists. He is a member of the board of the Committee to Protect Journalists and the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation.



*Essay by Paul Goldberger  
on the Fallen Journalists Memorial  
for the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission*

The complex and fraught process of siting memorials in the nation's capital has generally proceeded from one key premise, which is that the broader and more inclusive the subject of a commemorative work is, the closer it deserves to be to the great axis of the National Mall or to the central civic spaces of the capital. Thus the memorials to Washington and Lincoln occupy central positions within the Mall itself; the Vietnam Veterans Memorial is on the edge of the Mall, gesturing toward these two neighbors, and the recently constructed monument commemorating Japanese Americans who were interned during World War II is at a prominent intersection a few blocks away. When the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission was selecting a site for the World War II Memorial, it considered multiple sites and ultimately chose the Rainbow Pool in the center of the Mall, explicitly acknowledging the importance of the war as the defining event of the 20th century and the universality of the connection that most citizens felt to it.

By that same principle, every citizen has a connection to the free press, and to the importance it has played, and continues to play, in shaping the nation's destiny. The journalists who have given their lives for their work may be unknown to most citizens, but like the soldiers who have died in the course of battle they stand for the larger effort of which they are a part. As a memorial to war dead is a reminder to the living of the urgency of the cause for which they sacrificed their lives, so, too, will the Fallen Journalists Memorial help all citizens to understand that freedom of the press matters to them, and is as critical to the preservation of their liberty as the military actions or the political achievements that are commemorated in other memorials in the capital.

Journalism, which is to say the freedom to seek out information, even if it is critical of the government, and to use it to explain and enlighten citizens as to the meaning of current events, is an essential part of American life. It is part of everyone's experience, and as such, this memorial has the potential to communicate to a broader audience than almost any other recent monument. It is in the nature of memorials to look backwards, to remind us of great events and great people of the past in the hope that the reverence they inspire will be of some didactic benefit in the present. But the Fallen Journalists Memorial is different, since it is linked, implicitly if not explicitly, to the daily lives of every American. It will remind them that journalism's mission is to secure their freedom. It is a memorial not only to people but to an idea: the uniquely American idea that without a flourishing culture of journalism, the nation cannot thrive, and that the free flow of information is essential to a functioning democracy.

The McMillan Commission in 1902 called for future civic structures in Washington to have "a visible orderly relation one to another for their mutual support and enhancement," a prescription that referred to more than the commission's wish to see a consistent architectural style. It was also a reminder that monuments and civic



structures in the nation's capital needed to reflect the nation's aspirations, and in some way demonstrate its shared values. Placing the Fallen Journalists Memorial within Area I, where commemorative works are required to be of "preeminent and lasting historical significance to the United States," acknowledges the promise of the First Amendment and of the importance of the free press in American history. In Area I, the unique role of journalism, never a part of government but always its watchdog, will be made manifest by its closeness to the halls of government, and the clear lines of sight between the memorial site and the Capitol Building. At the same time, the memorial will be a thing apart, a reminder to every citizen that journalism is independent, and that its independence helps preserve the nation.



**Paul Goldberger** is a Contributing Editor at *Vanity Fair*. He served as the Architecture Critic for *The New Yorker* and *The New York Times*, and currently holds the Joseph Urban Chair in Design and Architecture at Parsons School of Design in New York City. He is the chief site selection and design consultant for the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation. To the role he brings a lifetime of experience with architectural design and a consulting portfolio, which includes the new Moynihan Train Hall at Penn Station in New York and the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. He also serves as a design consultant to the Port Authority of New York on the new LaGuardia Airport and worked as an advisor on architect selection and design for Glenstone, a museum of modern and contemporary art in Potomac, Maryland.



## **Holding Power Accountable Is Key Mission of Free and Fearless Press**

By Leonard Downie Jr.

Weil Family Professor of Journalism, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism, Arizona State University

Former executive editor, The Washington Post

I write to emphasize the “preeminent and lasting historical significance” of the Fallen Journalists Memorial and the importance of having it located near the National Mall with a view of Capitol Hill. It should be easily found among the other important symbols of our American democracy and their influence on the world – in this case, the vital role of a free and fearless press to fully inform citizens and hold government and power accountable to them.

Many, many journalists have risked and given their lives to do just that in the United States and countries around the world. Numerous American journalists have died covering wars and terrorism. *Arizona Republic* reporter Don Bolles was murdered in 1976 while investigating organized crime in Arizona. Five journalists were shot and killed in the *Capital Gazette* newspaper newsroom in Annapolis, Maryland in 2018 by a man who was unhappy with the newspaper’s reporting about him. In recent years, many other American journalists have been threatened with harm because of extremist opposition to their reporting.

Journalists in other countries have perished in larger numbers because they dared to report honestly about their governments, corruption, crime and human rights. In many cases, their inspiration has been the tradition of American journalism that has held power accountable ever since the early days of our Republic.

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, “muckraking” journalists exposed corruption in government and monopolistic industries that helped create the political climate for, among other reforms, President Theodore Roosevelt’s trust busting, congressional passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act, and the ratification of the 17th Amendment to the Constitution, which authorized popular election of the U. S. Senate. Skeptical reporting by journalists risking their lives in Vietnam contributed to opposition to the lost war at home. Investigative reporting about Watergate led to the only resignation in disgrace of a U. S. president. The ensuing adoption of accountability journalism as a high priority by most of the U. S. news media has exposed wrongdoing and led to reforms in almost every aspect of American society – from local governments, police, courts, prisons and schools to national government, private industry and finance, churches and charities, to racial discrimination and mistreatment of women.

Journalism that holds power accountable has become the most important mission of American journalism in the cacophony of information and misinformation in the digital age. And it has increasingly become an important mission of brave journalists in more and more authoritarian and corrupt countries around the world, even at the cost of the journalists’ lives.



The Fallen Journalists Memorial will not just honor those journalists who have sacrificed their lives performing this vital public service. It will help all those who see and study the memorial to understand and support the role of journalism – especially accountability journalism – in underpinning democracy and exposing dangers to it in these turbulent times. To accomplish this, the memorial needs to be located where it can be seen, so that it can educate and inspire, and where it can ensure that a free press is seen as a companion to the other great institutions of the American experiment.



Leonard Downie Jr. is the Weil Family Professor of Journalism at Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School and the founder of Investigative Reporters and Editors. Previously, he served as executive editor of *The Washington Post* from 1991 to 2008, where he also worked as an investigative reporter, editor on the local and national news staffs, London correspondent, and managing editor. As deputy metro editor from 1972 to 1974, he helped oversee the *Post's* Watergate coverage under Ben Bradlee. Downie has also authored seven books on investigative reporting and journalism, as well as two special reports for the Committee to Protect Journalism. His most recent book is *All About the Story: Power, Politics and the Washington Post*.



## **Does the First Amendment apply to me: Press Freedom in the Long Struggle for Civil Rights**

Earnest L. Perry Jr., Ph.D.

Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research

Missouri School of Journalism

The Fallen Journalists Memorial will commemorate the courage of journalists who faced oppression, danger and even death to bear witness and bring the truth to light. The memorial will call attention in particular to the role of the Black Press in advancing equity for all citizens, a purpose that has preeminent and lasting historical significance.

Journalists representing the Black Press fought for both freedom of the press and the right to be treated as equal citizens. Violence was the weapon used by most opponents, but it did not stop Black men and women from providing a voice for their readers. Mary Ann Shadd Cary and her family actively helped in the Underground Railroad. When Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850, she moved to Canada, where she opened a racially integrated school and started the *Provincial Freeman*. She was the first black woman publisher in North America and the first woman publisher of any background in Canada. Cary found First Amendment freedoms north of the border that she could not get in her country of birth.

Ida B. Wells-Barnett, one of the early Black women journalists, lost her newspaper in 1892 after a mob destroyed the printing press and other machinery because she dared to accuse white men of lynching three Black men. She was in New York at the time and decided to stay there. She eventually moved to Chicago and got married. She continued to write and report on lynchings in the South, often under threat from white supremacists.

The early 1900s saw the birth of legendary newspapers such as the *Chicago Defender*, the *Pittsburgh Courier*, the *Baltimore Afro-American* and the *Amsterdam News*. The publishers and journalists at these newspapers advocated for Black equality and inclusion. They were aggressive in covering racial violence in the South and various forms of discrimination in the North. During World War I and II, they lobbied government officials to force defense contractors to hire Blacks and the military to desegregate its forces.

The Black Press was more successful during World War II because government officials, in particular President Franklin D. Roosevelt, needed a unified country to win the war. Many Blacks were apathetic to the war because they questioned why they should fight for a country that considered them second-class citizens. In expressing this sentiment in editorials and news stories, the Black Press opened itself up to sedition charges and investigation by J. Edgar Hoover's FBI. The Black Press chose a middle ground. Led by the *Pittsburgh Courier*, it repurposed Roosevelt's Double V, victory at war and victory in the 1944 election, to champion victory in the war effort abroad and victory against racist enemies at home. Many Black Americans embraced the effort because it presented an authentic picture of their place in this country. Throughout much of the war, Black



publishers and journalists face federal investigations, confiscation of newspapers near military bases and the threat of losing mailing privileges, which would have decimated its national circulation. Its freedom of the press was under attack from a government that claimed to be fighting for democracy abroad.

The efforts of the Black Press and other civil rights groups leading up to and during World War II laid the groundwork for the all-out push to dismantle Jim Crow in the 1950s and 1960s. The Supreme Court's unanimous *Brown v. Board of Education* decision striking down separate, but equal school systems sent shockwaves through country, but it was the violent murder of 14-year-old Emmett Till and the subsequent acquittal of two white men charged with his death that changed the course of news coverage of race in America. Mamie Bradley's decision to hold an open-casket funeral for her son and the significant coverage it received in the Black Press exposed Southern justice for Blacks that the white press could not ignore. The trial of Roy Bryant and J.W. Milam brought reporters, both Black and white, from around the country and the world. Though the not guilty verdict was a forgone conclusion, the trial opened the door for the white press, first newspapers and later the upstart television news media, to chronicle the battles in Montgomery, Birmingham, Selma and other parts of the South that would lead to the end of Jim Crow, but not the long struggle for equality that continues today.

Several journalists faced violence covering the movement. L. Alex Wilson, editor and general manager of the *Tri-State Defender* of Memphis, Tennessee was attacked by a white mob while covering the Little Rock Nine integration in 1957. Photographs of the brutality he faced that day were published in *Time* magazine. Wilson would later become editor of the *Chicago Defender*. He died at the age of 51; some attribute his death to the injuries he suffered in Little Rock. Don Hogan Charles, the *New York Times*, first Black photographer, risked his personal safety to take photos of the Civil Rights era and was known to check his tailpipe for bombs constantly. Paul Guihard, a reporter for a French news service died from a gunshot wound while covering the admission of James Meredith to the University of Mississippi in 1962. Evelyn Cunningham, a reporter for the *Pittsburgh Courier*, received significant awards as both a reporter and an editor. Cunningham's coverage on Southern lynchings earned her the title "the lynching editor." She also conducted in-depth interviews with Civil Rights leaders, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X. Throughout the Civil Rights Movement, journalists, both Black and white, faced mobs of segregationists who saw them as allies of those forcing them to change their way of life.

The journalists who document the long struggle for equality and social justice in this country seldom get their time in the limelight. That is not the role they play in the historical narrative. However, it does not mean that they should be forgotten. The stories they told and continue to tell are ones that address the still unmet ideals of the First Amendment for those whose ancestors came to this land not by choice.

Those First Amendment ideals can be seen today in journalism that is not only produced by mainstream news organizations, but also by independent journalists and regular citizens



carrying cell phones. All journalists, both past and present, who put their lives on the line to tell the story of America, both good and bad, deserve to be honored. That is why it is so important to find a prominent and accessible location for the only national memorial commemorating America's commitment to a free press by honoring the journalists, including those in the Black Press, who sacrificed their lives in service to the cause of freedom for all.



Dr. Earnest L. Perry is the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research at the Missouri School of Journalism and chair of the Publications Committee for the Association on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. He is also the former president of the American Journalism Historians Association. Dr. Perry's research interests center on African American press history, specifically on the Black Press during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, as well as underrepresented groups and the lack of ethnic minorities in the mainstream media.



## **AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO A FREE PRESS IS A BEACON TO THE WORLD**

By AMANDA BENNETT  
FORMER DIRECTOR, VOICE OF AMERICA

I am writing in support of the request to allow a memorial to fallen journalists to be installed in Area I. As former Director of Voice of America -- my tenure extended from 4/2016 to 6/2020 -- I am convinced that such a memorial will have "preeminent and lasting historical significance," as required by law.

As I am sure you are aware, the law authorizing the Fallen Journalists Memorial says the memorial will "commemorate America's commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause." The role that journalists working for a free press play in underpinning -- and indeed making possible -- a democratic system cannot be overstated. Thus, honoring those who went so far as to give their lives in the service of this endeavor also honors a commitment to both a democratic system and the democratic ideals that underly it.

Through its commitment to maintaining a free and independent press around the world, America demonstrates its commitment to this foundation of democracy. That commitment serves as a beacon of inspiration and a model for the world. In some parts of the world, the only evidence citizens have that a free press is even possible is the example the U.S. sets. Since its inception during World War II, bringing truthful news of the war to Germans cut off behind Nazi lines, the Voice of America has modeled that commitment by acting as a news service, not a propaganda arm. VOA's first broadcast included this promise: "The news may be good, the news may be bad. We shall tell you the truth." As former director of Voice of America, I am intimately familiar with the passion and care that goes into fulfilling that promise.

Since the beginning of what eventually became the U.S. Agency for Global Media, (encompassing Voice of America and its global counterparts which include Radio Free Europe and Radio Free Asia) a total of 19 of its journalists have given their lives in pursuit of bringing a free press to the world. USAGM honors their sacrifice in a memorial inside the Cohen building, headquarters of both VOA and of USAGM. This memorial is a forceful reminder of the people who cared so deeply about the importance of a free press that they made this sacrifice. The



memorial that I write to support would honor not only these 19 specific individuals, but the others whose lives were forfeit in the same pursuit.

The idea that journalists can and have given their lives in the pursuit of free and independent news around the world gives this proposed memorial not only national significance, but also global meaning and importance. The news and information these journalists report reach citizens directly in over 60 countries around the world. The slain USAGM journalists themselves come from every corner of the world, and were reporting in every corner of the world – in Angola, Turkmenistan, Moscow, Azerbaijan, Somalia – with the most recent deaths – four Radio Free Europe correspondents -- killed in a single targeted bomb attack in Afghanistan in 2020.

The significance of these sacrifices of journalists who live and work around the world is intertwined with virtually all the most critical events in history. Voice of America correspondents not only brought news behind Nazi lines during WWII, they also brought news of the outside world to a closed China during the years of the Cultural Revolution. In the 1980s and 1990s they told the people of Albania, cut off from the world by a dictator, that the world had not forgotten them. Only the fall of the Berlin Wall revealed how important the work of Voice of America had been in keeping hope alive among the people who for decades were cut off from information behind the wall. More recently, Voice of America journalists were there to report the savage rout of the Rohingya people from Myanmar, and to tell people in China what their own government would not about the questions raised about Coronavirus and its origins. VOA's colleagues at Radio Free Europe in Russia and its surrounding countries and Radio Free Asia in Cambodia and Vietnam are often the only sources of independent news about critical issues such as Covid and vaccines that the citizens of those countries can access.

A memorial will have global and historical import by reminding people of America of their own country's commitment to supporting a free press both at home and abroad. Yet this memorial's impact on an international audience and on international visitors to this country should be no less profound. I pause here in gratitude that the scope of this project is not limited to Americans, but to all journalists around the world who have fallen in pursuit of the truth. Not just their home countries, but ours, benefit from their work.



Hundreds of visitors every year come to VOA and its sister organizations to see and appreciate this commitment. I have no doubt that a public memorial will have an even greater attraction and importance to visitors from all over the world. Such a memorial's historic and global significance will be enormous, enabling people to value a free press and its sacrifices and to honor journalists from their own and other countries who have died for that privilege.

The names of some who have lost their lives in the pursuit of journalistic truth are well known. The hunt for the 9-11 plotters took the life of my former *Wall Street Journal* colleague, Danny Pearl, beheaded in Pakistan. Jamal Khashoggi brutally murdered for his writing. The five staff members of the Maryland *Capital Gazette* gunned down in their offices. Marie Colvin and James Foley who were killed in Syria.

There are others, such as the journalists from Voice of America and their colleagues at Radio Free Europe and Radio Free Asia, who are less well known. Maharram Durrani of Radio Free Europe, killed by a bomb in Kabul as she was just beginning her journalistic career. Ali Nur Siad, killed in a bomb blast in Mogadishu while on assignment for Voice of America. Almigdad Mojalli, killed in Yemen while on a VOA assignment. Nazar Abdulwahid Al-Radhi of Radio Free Europe, shot and killed in Iraq.

World famous or practically anonymous, it is critical to know about and to honor these journalists and their sacrifices in the service of one of America's most sacred democratic rights. There is no question in my mind that this memorial will indeed have a preeminent and lasting historical significance.



Amanda Bennett is a Pulitzer Prize-winning author, investigative journalist and editor, and the former Director of the Voice of America (VOA), the largest and oldest U.S. funded international broadcaster. VOA produces digital, TV and radio content in more than 40 languages, which it distributes to affiliate stations around the world. Through 2013, Bennett served as an Executive Editor for Bloomberg News, where she created and ran a global team of investigative reporters and editors. She was also co-founder of Bloomberg News' Women's project. Throughout her storied career in journalism, which included 23 years at The Wall Street Journal, Bennett has served as an editor and reporter at local, regional, and international outlets, stationed everywhere from Portland, Oregon and Lexington, Kentucky to Washington, D.C. and Beijing. She is a member of the Board of Advisors at the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation.



# Fallen Journalists Memorial: Recognizing the vital role local news media plays in American communities

By Rick Hutzell  
Former Editor of the *Capital Gazette* in Annapolis, MD

## Introduction

Thousands of people lined the streets of Annapolis, Maryland, on the afternoon of July 4, 2018, for the annual Independence Day parade. The parade is one of the highlights of the summer calendar in the small state capital. But this year, the crowds were there to celebrate more than the birth of the United States. People crowded the sidewalks and flooded onto the streets to support their community newspaper after the deadliest attack on American journalists in history.<sup>1</sup>

Just six days earlier, the murder of five staff members in the Capital Gazette newsroom galvanized the community around its hometown newspaper. Thousands mourned the dead and supported the survivors.<sup>2</sup> The parade would be the first of many expressions of the importance of the newspaper to the Annapolis area. Some were concrete, including donations to help the families of those killed.<sup>3</sup> Others were practical, such as a rise in subscriptions. All recognized the value of a news media dedicated to local topics.

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, himself a subscriber of the newspaper, joined those who recognized its importance.<sup>4</sup> “The Capital Gazette is my hometown paper, and I have the greatest respect for the fine journalists, and all the men and women, who work there,” he said in a widely reported statement. “They serve each day to shine light on the world around us so that we might see with more clarity and greater understanding.”

What happened in Annapolis was a powerful reminder of what local news outlets mean to the communities they serve. When journalists die while reporting the news, it is a direct threat to that role. While most people understand the risk to journalists on the battlefield or covering brutal regimes, scores have died close to home while reporting on their communities.<sup>5</sup> The

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<sup>1</sup> Williams, Timothy; Harmon, Amy, ["Maryland Shooting Suspect Had Long-Running Dispute With Newspaper."](#) The New York Times. June 29, 2018.

<sup>2</sup> Pamela Wood, ["Annapolis Independence Day parade honors freedom of the press; especially for The Capital."](#) Baltimore Sun. July 4, 2018

<sup>3</sup> Joel McCord, “Capital Gazette Families Fund nears \$1 million,” Capital Gazette, Sept. 4, 2018.

<sup>4</sup> Mark Osborne and Emily Shapiro, ["Capital Gazette shooting suspect barricaded door, tried to 'kill as many' as possible: Officials"](#) ABC News, June 29, 2018.

<sup>5</sup> Author’s analysis of two databases recording journalists’ deaths, ["Murders of journalists more than double worldwide,"](#) Committee to Protect Journalists 2020 annual report, December 2020; ["Journalists Memorial,"](#) Newseum. Undated.



Fallen Journalists Memorial planned in Washington, D.C., would appropriately reflect the unparalleled historical significance of that sacrifice and the role of journalism in communities across the United States.

## Assessing the benefits

By focusing on their communities, local news outlets, particularly newspapers, help Americans understand what defines their community and ways to make it better. *The Capital Gazette* remains a prime example of that mission. Prompted by the May 2021 purchase of the newspaper by a hedge fund with a reputation for cutting into journalism resources, the top elected official in the newspaper's home county sent a letter to the new owners urging them to respect the importance of the newspaper to its community. "Our paper is the heart of our community," Anne Arundel County Executive Stuart Pittman wrote.<sup>6</sup>

The significance of a local news outlet extends beyond the tragedy of the mass shooting in Annapolis. As government health agencies and national media tried to get information to the public on the nature of the COVID pandemic, some of the most reliable information for communities comes from local news media.<sup>7</sup>

"The horrific spread of the novel coronavirus across America has prompted an outpouring of questions from confused citizens in communities who need answers," Mark Glazer of the Knight Foundation wrote less than a month into the pandemic. "What will happen to the most vulnerable among us? Where can I get food? How many hospitalizations have there been in my neighborhood? How do I support people who need help? And time and time again, local news organizations have been there to answer those questions with dedicated coverage of COVID-19 (often without a payroll), with reporters literally on the front lines of the crisis."

Communities with vital local news outlets have lower levels of political partisanship.<sup>8</sup> That impact is a direct function of opinion pages that delve into local issues where broad descriptions of conservative-liberal or party labels do not readily apply. Likewise, the health of local news media contributes to the number of political candidates who participate in local elections.<sup>9</sup> The opportunity to explore problems and opportunities facing a community is an irreplaceable part of a robust political system. That process is crucial to establishing the legitimacy of an elected government.

For the function of government itself, local watchdog journalism, a primary function of newspapers and also a focus of broadcast news media, helps keep the cost of governance

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<sup>6</sup> Stuart Pittman, ["Open Letter to Alden Global Capital and all of its shareholders."](#) Anne Arundel County, June 22, 2021.

<sup>7</sup> Mark Glazer, [6 Ways Local News Makes a Crucial Impact Covering COVID-19](#) Knight Foundation. April 2020.

<sup>8</sup> Joshua P. Darr, Johanna L. Dunaway, Matthew P. Hitt, ["Want To Reduce Political Polarization? Save Your Local Newspaper,"](#) NiemanLab, February 11, 2019.

<sup>9</sup> Meghan E. Rubado, Jay T. Jennings, ["Political Consequences of the Endangered Local Watchdog: Newspaper Decline and Mayoral Elections in the United States."](#) Urban Affairs Review, April 3, 2019.



down. News reporting on votes, policy initiatives and other issues is an irreplaceable check on democratic government. In finance, those costs include apparent subjects, such as pay raises and capital projects, but also areas such as borrowing.<sup>10</sup>

Perhaps none of this is as important a reminder about the significance of local news as its role in a community's sense of identity. Washington Post Media columnist Margaret Smith writes that local news outlets create and solidify a sense of identity for a community. "It's the way a local columnist can express a community's frustration or triumph, the way the local music critic can review a concert, the deeply reported feature stories, the assessment of a new restaurant, the obituaries, the letters to the editor. The newspaper ties a region together, helps it make sense of itself ... serves as a village square whose boundaries transcend Facebook's filter bubble."<sup>11</sup>

## Conclusion

Newspapers continue to face challenges because of changing economics.<sup>12</sup> Local news media will continue to shape communities across the nation, but only a healthy presence can guarantee many of the attributes Americans take for granted today. A prominent place for The Fallen Journalists Memorial near the National Mall will serve as a statement to the world that a free and robust press represents one of our most essential institutions at a time when its future remains unclear.

The importance of local journalism to the success of our society deserves such recognition.



**Rick Hutzell** is a member of the Board of Advisors at the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation and the former editor of the *Capital Gazette*, the Annapolis, Maryland-based newspaper where he worked starting in 1987. Hutzell served as editor of the *Gazette* from 2015 to 2021. In 2018, a gunman who was angry about the newspaper's coverage attacked Hutzell's newsroom and killed five of his colleagues. Despite this tragedy, the *Capital Gazette* journalists and staff insisted on putting out their next paper only hours after the shooting, remaining committed to their essential role within the community. Hutzell is a champion of local news and its role in our communities. He has also spoken out about the physical dangers journalists face and the economic hurdles, and opportunities, facing the local news industry at large.

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<sup>10</sup> Pengjie Goa; Chang Lee; Dermot Murphy, [Financing Dies in Darkness? The Impact of Newspaper Closures on Public Finance](#). *Journal of Financial Economics*, (2020) vol. 135, no. 2, 445-467

<sup>11</sup> Margaret Sullivan. "[Ghosting the News: Local Journalism and the Crisis of American Democracy](#)." Columbia Global Reports, July 2020.

<sup>12</sup> Penelope Muse Abernathy, "[News Deserts and Ghost Newspapers: Will local news survive?](#)" Husman School of Journalism and Media, University of North Carolina, June 24, 2020.



# The Press and the Republic Rise and Fall Together

By Tom Rosenstiel

*Eleanor Merrill Visiting Professor on the Future of Journalism at the University of Maryland  
Philip Merrill College of Journalism*

As the young country began to debate the proposed Constitution, it quickly became clear that the states would not ratify the document unless it added a missing element--a citizens' Bill of Rights.

As James Madison set to work on the addition, he drew on the work of state constitutions, particularly those of Virginia and Massachusetts. And the first of the rights he amended to the Constitution was the inviolable guarantee that a free press, alongside freedom of speech and of religion, could not be constrained by government.

In the language of the time, a free press was considered an essential "bulwark" of the new country's fragile liberty.

Journalism was not yet a profession. The Revolutionary press lacked common ethics, standard methods of reporting or verification. Most papers were mouthpieces of the emerging political factions in the country. Yet even then (newspapers had only begun to appear the previous century), the printers who published these papers espoused aspirations to accuracy and to serve as a watchdog over the powerful.

One of the defining moments in journalism's history had already occurred, even before the Revolution. In England, libel laws held that the more truthful a criticism of the government, the greater the harm. When the royal governor of New York sued a printer named John Peter Zenger, the colonial court ruled something new: journalists could not be held to have committed libel if what they printed was true.

The centrality of a free press to the American experiment was probably most succinctly phrased by a publisher who, like Zenger, was an immigrant, Joseph Pulitzer: "Our Republic and its press," he wrote, "will rise or fall together."

Today journalism in America sits at a crossroads. As advertising dollars have shifted from the producers of news to the platforms that distribute it, particularly Google and Facebook, the economics of news have been profoundly disrupted. The advent of new technologies has splintered audiences and buffeted journalistic norms.

But journalism has adapted to cultural and technological shifts before. The telegraph led to the advent of wire services and the beginning of journalistic independence. As the cost of paper dropped in the 19th century, and a popular press emerged, papers finally freed themselves of party control. The addition of photographs in newspapers created sudden concerns around privacy. Radio allowed people to hear the news for themselves, leading newspapers to become more interpretive. Television allowed people to see the news for themselves, leading most American cities to have only one newspaper--and in almost every case the best newspaper in the city survived.



With each turn, journalism quality ebbed and flowed. The tabloid era of the 1920s gave way to a more serious press of the Depression and World War II. The rise of the nightly network newscasts and the cultural shifts of the 1960s gave rise to a more skeptical press and the introduction of the Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting. The 1990s saw a new era of sensationalism in the “OJ-ification” of news. September 11 and the war on terrorism largely ended that phase.

Journalism faces new crises now. The profession is contending with “filter bubbles,” audience biases, the attention marketplace, propaganda websites posing as news, and the search for a new economic model.

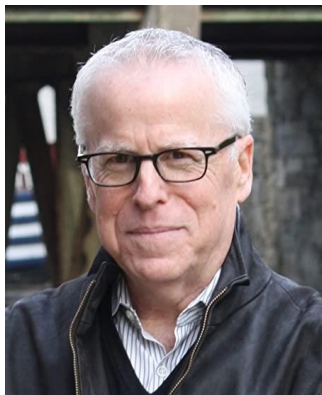
The same technologies that have created those crises, however, have put new innovative tools in the hands of a new more diverse generation of innovators and citizen sentinels armed with video cameras.

Western civilization has produced one idea that surpasses all others: the prospect that people can govern themselves. As that idea took root, one institution emerged organically so that citizens could have the information to make self-governance possible: a free press.

That is why it has been called the Fourth Estate. An independent press is the essential addition to the three branches of government. At a time when American democracy feels threatened once again, the centrality of that remains unchanged.

The Fallen Journalists Memorial recognizes those who have paid the ultimate price to aspiration, who died trying to be the eyes and ears of their fellow citizens. They ran to the sound of the guns, into the fire, and faced down the violently corrupt so that others would know.

That notion--a press that is free so people will know the truth--is not just a bulwark of liberty. It is also a promise of “preeminent and lasting historical significance.”



Tom Rosenstiel is one of the world’s most recognized thought leaders on journalism, media, technology, and the intersection of media and politics. He is currently the Eleanor Merrill Visiting Professor on the Future of Journalism at the University of Maryland Philip Merrill School of Journalism and a senior non-resident fellow at the Brookings Institution. He is also a member of the Board of Advisors at the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation. Previously, as the Executive Director of the American Press Institute, he helped news organizations adapt to unprecedented technological, economic, and political disruption. He founded, and for 16 years was the director of, the Project for Excellence in Journalism at the Pew Research Center in Washington, D.C., and co-founder and vice chair of the Committee of Concerned Journalists. He is the co-author, with Bill Kovach, of *The Elements of Journalism*, now in its fourth edition, which has become the authoritative textbook for most journalism schools in the U.S. and elsewhere.



## Investigative Reporting's Critical Role in Our History

By Carl Bernstein  
Journalist and Author

I write to you in three capacities: As a second-generation native of the nation's capital; as a journalist; and as a proud American citizen.

All three of those elements, from my perspective, figure in the immense good for the city and the nation that would come from building a memorial, prominently located near the National Mall, that is dedicated to journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to the free press and the national interest of the United States and the ideals of democracy itself. Such a monument would also honor the concomitant role and ideals of investigative journalists and their reporting in preserving freedom and democracy.

In the 60 years since I went to work at the old *Evening Star*, located not far from the Mall, I've covered and written countless stories – from the March on Washington to the overdue destruction of the WW II “Tempos” on the Mall to the anti-war movement of the Vietnam era – that emphasized the Mall's importance in our national life.

There are gleaming memorials to our greatest national heroes and presidents and fallen soldiers within sight of the Mall, which are seen every year by millions of Americans and foreign visitors.

But, inexplicably, there is no proximate memorial or consecrated ground to the heroism and immeasurable contribution of the hundreds of journalists who sacrificed their lives so that our nation could remain free and a beacon of democracy for all the world. Those journalists – reporters, photographers, editors, couriers – died on battlefields foreign and domestic in service to the Constitution of the United States, the First Amendment, freedom of the press, and the very survival of our nation and democracy itself.

Then there is the contribution of what has become known as investigative reporting to this country and the world.

Investigation journalists have fought government control of media and preserved a free press in the United States that is unique in the world in its ability to report without prior restraint or being silenced or shut down for pursuing the truth.

Investigative journalism has played a critical role in our history. Whether it was the muckrakers at the turn of the 20th century or Watergate, journalists have exposed wrongdoing that the powerful wanted to keep secret. Through such reporting, journalists have changed the course of history.

Such journalism can be risky, even dangerous. Don Bolles, a reporter investigating organized crime and land fraud schemes in Phoenix, Arizona, died after detonating a bomb placed in his car.

During Watergate, when Bob Woodward and I were warned that our lives might be in danger, there was not a moment's hesitancy by the publisher and editor of the *Washington Post* to make clear that their institution would not be intimidated or pressured in pursuing the story, no matter where it led.



Investigative journalism will be essential in the future. As autocrats around the world tighten their grip, among their first targets are investigative reporters. Think of Jamal Khashoggi. Or the brave reporters who have died in Russia under Putin's autocracy for their pursuit of the truth. The Committee to Protect Journalists reported that at the end of 2020, China had jailed 47 journalists, Turkey had imprisoned 37 and 10 were in jail in Belarus.

This memorial will remind visitors that journalists act on their behalf to preserve and advance the cause of freedom and democracy around the world: and in the process, to expose wrongdoing, corruption and waste, to hold the powerful accountable. I can think of no cause more deserving than a memorial near the National Mall, where the public can see it and appreciate how the press safeguards their freedoms.



In the early 1970s, Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward broke the Watergate story for *The Washington Post*, leading to the resignation of President Richard Nixon and setting the standard for modern investigative reporting, for which they and *The Post* were awarded the Pulitzer Prize. The author of five best-selling books, Bernstein is currently at work on several multi-media projects, including a memoir about growing up at a Washington newspaper, *The Evening Star*, during the Kennedy era; and a dramatic TV series about the United States Congress for HBO. He is also an on-air political analyst for CNN and a contributing editor of *Vanity Fair* magazine.



# Fallen Journalists

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## MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

### Statement of Ms. Barbara Cochran

President, Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation  
to the  
National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission  
Tuesday, October 5, 2021

Chairman May and members of the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission, thank you for the opportunity to present our site selection study for the Fallen Journalists Memorial.

The Fallen Journalists Memorial Act was unanimously enacted by Congress to commemorate America's commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who have sacrificed their lives for that cause. We are honored to be entrusted with fulfilling that dual mission by working with all of you to build a memorial that commemorates journalists, inspires visitors from around the world and educates current and future generations about the critical role of the free press as a key pillar of a vibrant democracy.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide additional background to accompany the site selection study. This includes commentaries submitted by historians, academic scholars, prominent journalists and other experts in the field of journalism on why the memorial merits a location in Area I designated for works of "preeminent and lasting historical significance to the United States."

I especially want to highlight some key factors that we believe justify a prominent site location that is in close proximity to our government institutions and other memorials of preeminent and lasting historical significance. These factors include the following:

**Congress intended the memorial to be a prominent national symbol** – As Senator Ben Cardin, the lead Senate sponsor of the Fallen Journalists Memorial Act, stated upon its enactment: "The free media, one of the pillars of our nation, is under attack figuratively and literally across America. Too many, including five innocent souls lost in the shooting at the *Capital Gazette* in Annapolis, gave everything they had in defense of democracy, transparency and freedom. This new memorial will honor the lives of those who died reporting the news and supporting the media on behalf of the American people. It will be a steadfast symbol of their sacrifice and the fragility of our democracy. Those who personify the First Amendment rights granted to every citizen have made our nation stronger."

**The Founding Fathers recognized the crucial role of the press by enshrining freedom of the press in the First Amendment** – By establishing that "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom ... of the press," the Founding Fathers deemed a free press to be independent of, and



on par with, our government institutions. Around the world, this is a defining characteristic of American democracy. Locating the memorial near each of the three branches of government will underscore the essential role that journalists play in holding those institutions accountable to their citizens and in providing a public service by sharing information.

**Throughout our history, journalists have served on the front lines during the most defining moments shaped American institutions and people’s everyday lives** – Journalism has been called the first rough draft of history. From daily reports on local leaders to explosive investigations that exposed the likes of the Watergate scandal; from anti-slavery editorials in the 1800s to live coverage of Black Lives Matter protests in 2020; from scenes of floods, fires and hurricanes across the U.S. to the front lines of combat around the world, journalists have served a vital, and often dangerous, role as witnesses to history. Many have died doing so. A memorial that commemorates such a prominent role and profession deserves to stand at the center of our Nation’s Capital.

**The visibility of the U.S. Capitol underscores the relationship between government and the press** – The First Amendment makes clear that the press is independent of the government, which allows the press to act as a watchdog to hold government accountable on behalf of the public. Placing the memorial with a view of a powerful symbol of democratic government gives physical expression to the relationship between the free press and self-governance. It demonstrates that a monument to the Fourth Estate belongs near the three branches of government.

**To effectively educate and inspire, the memorial needs to be accessible to as many visitors to the Nation’s Capital as possible** – The attacks we see today on individual journalists and journalism in general highlight the necessity for a memorial that serves to educate and inspire current and future generations around the world about the essential role of a free press in a civil society. This is especially important against the backdrop of increasing authoritarianism around the world. By placing the memorial where visitors will readily encounter it, the public will be reminded of the risks that journalists take to protect the freedom of all.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Fallen Journalists Memorial Act (Public Law 116-253) passed unanimously in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate and was signed into law on December 23, 2020. It authorizes the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation to establish a memorial on federal land in Washington, DC, in compliance with the Commemorative Works Act. The law states the memorial will “commemorate America’s commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause.”

Congress intends the memorial to serve two equally important objectives: (1) commemorate one of America’s greatest historical achievements – the establishment of a free and independent press; and (2) recognize the sacrifices of those who risked their lives in support of that commitment at home and abroad.

The need for a memorial that embraces both objectives is compelling. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, at least 30 journalists were killed worldwide in 2020, and 21 killings were carried out as a direct response to the work being done by those journalists. As of



last year, 235 journalists were in prison because of their work, according to International Federation of Journalists.

For context, let me share with you examples of journalists killed in the U.S.:

- On June 28, 2018, the deadliest attack on journalism in modern U.S. history occurred when a gunman who was angered by an article killed five employees of the *Capital Gazette* newspaper and injured two others in their Annapolis, Maryland, newsroom.
- Local television reporter Alison Parker and photojournalist Adam Ward were shot dead during a live broadcast in Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia in August 2015.
- In 2011, photo editor Robert Stevens for *The Sun* died from inhaling anthrax that was mailed to him and other journalists, including NBC's Tom Brokaw.
- Editor Chauncey Bailey was murdered in California on his way to work in 2007 by a man who was reportedly angered by Chauncey and his team's coverage of his business.
- In 1993, Dona St. Plite was the third Haitian-born journalist to be killed in Miami in three years. He was murdered at a benefit for a colleague killed two years earlier.
- In 1992, editor Manuel de Dios Unanue was shot in New York City by drug traffickers and businessmen retaliating for hard-hitting stories that de Dios had written.

And some examples of murdered U.S. journalists working abroad, as well as foreign journalists supporting U.S. media organizations, include:

- Following the 9/11 attacks on the U.S. by Al-Qaeda, Daniel Pearl traveled to Pakistan as *The Wall Street Journal's* South Asia bureau chief to report on militant extremist groups during the U.S. War on Terrorism. He was kidnapped and killed by his terrorist captors during what he thought was an interview with a prominent Muslim leader on February 1, 2002.
- James Foley was a freelance American journalist and video reporter who covered conflict in Iraq, Libya, and Syria. In 2011, he was taken prisoner in Libya alongside fellow journalists covering the uprising against Muammar Gaddafi and quickly returned to reporting after enduring 44 days in detention. While reporting for *GlobalPost* during the Syrian Civil War, Foley was kidnapped in Northern Syria in 2012 and killed by his ISIL captors in 2014 as retribution for U.S. airstrikes in Iraq.
- Delhi-based photo-journalist Danish Siddiqui led the national Reuters Multimedia team and was a member of the 2018 Pulitzer Prize-winning team for Feature Photography for documenting the Rohingya refugee crisis. During the pandemic, Siddiqui shed light on the mass cremations of COVID-19 fatalities in India. He was killed in an ambush-crossfire while embedded with a senior Afghan officer during a clash between Afghan Special Forces and Taliban insurgents in Kandahar in July 2021.
- Jamal Khashoggi was a Saudi Arabian journalist, dissident, author, Global Opinions contributing columnist for *The Washington Post*, and a general manager and editor in chief of Al-Arab News Channel. Khashoggi was known for his critical reporting on the Saudi government's ultra-conservative policies, ruling Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman, and the conservative interpretation of Islam. In 2018, he was killed after entering the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, which the CIA later determined was at the direction of Mohammed Bin Salman.



I also want to emphasize that physical attacks on journalists even in the U.S. are not rare or isolated incidents. So far in 2021, U.S. Press Freedom Tracker documented 129 assaults of 96 journalists. Appendix C highlights some of the headlines from just a two-month period this summer.

## **MEMORIAL PROGRAM**

The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation envisions a memorial that inspires visitors to celebrate a free and independent press as a worthy cause while educating current and future generations about the essential role of journalism in a thriving democracy. While no formal decisions have been made, we are considering a modestly sized, non-intrusive memorial without names or definitions that represents the full breadth of the news media – past, present and future. The memorial will serve as a commemorative landscape that is a place for reflection and appreciation for those who lost their lives, a focal point for learning about the First Amendment and the role of journalism to a functioning democracy, and a convening space for commemorative moments.

The types of convenings that could take place at the memorial include class trips and lectures (elementary through graduate school) where groups of students can learn about the importance of a free press and the history of journalists and journalism; group ceremonies (20-100 people) commemorating specific fallen journalists' anniversaries; and small gatherings (20-100 people) around matters related to a free press or in honor of annual days of recognition like World Press Freedom Day.

We believe that a site of approximately 1/3 acre would be sufficient to construct a commemorative landscape feature that can accommodate a program that advances the goals of the memorial.

## **ABOUT THE FALLEN JOURNALISTS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION**

The Foundation currently operates under the auspices of the National Press Club Journalism Institute (NPCJI), the non-profit educational affiliate of the National Press Club. The Foundation is supported by numerous leaders from all segments of the journalism community who serve on its Board of Advisors. They include editors and publishers such as Dean Baquet of the New York Times, Sally Buzbee of the Washington Post and Kevin Merida of the Los Angeles Times, news anchors such as Tom Brokaw, Judy Woodruff, Andrea Mitchell, Bret Baier and Wolf Blitzer, and photojournalists such as David Hume Kennerly and Lynsey Addario (see Appendix A for the entire list). Major funders of the Foundation include the Annenberg Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Michael and Jacky Ferro Foundation and the Donald Graham.

The Foundation has been working with AECOM, the world's leading infrastructure consulting firm, on the site selection process, and with Pulitzer Prize winning architecture critic and consultant Paul Goldberger, on architect and design selection. AECOM is well-known to the Commission and requires no further introduction. Paul Goldberger brings a lifetime of experience with architectural design and a consulting portfolio, which includes the new Moynihan Train Hall at Penn Station in New York and the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. He also serves as a design consultant to the Port Authority of New York on the new



LaGuardia Airport and worked as an advisor on architect selection and design for Glenstone, a museum of modern and contemporary art in Potomac, Maryland.

## CONCLUSION

The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation appreciates the Commission's consideration of our site selection study, including our priority locations in Area I. We stand ready to provide any additional information that the Commission requests.

Barbara Cochran  
Barbara.cochran@fallenjournalists.org  
202-716-6510

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## FALLEN JOURNALISTS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP

**Barbara Cochran** is the President of the Fallen Journalist Memorial Foundation. She is professor emerita at the Missouri School of Journalism, having held the Curtis B. Hurley Chair in Public Affairs Journalism and directed the school's Washington program.

Before joining the faculty, Cochran held top positions in print and broadcast journalism and in the nonprofit world. Cochran served as managing editor of the Washington Star, vice president for news for National Public Radio, executive producer of NBC's Meet the Press and vice president and Washington bureau chief for CBS News. She supervised coverage of stories from Watergate to the Persian Gulf War and played a leading role in the coverage of every election and political convention for 24 years. At NPR, she directed the creation of Morning Edition, the program that cemented NPR's position as an essential national news provider. During her tenure, NPR won two DuPont-Columbia Awards. She served for 12 years as President of the Radio Television Digital News Association, the world's largest organization serving the electronic news profession.

Cochran has been recognized with a number of awards, including The Media Institute's Freedom of Speech Award, The AWC Matrix Foundation's International Matrix Award for Lifetime Achievement, the Library of American Broadcasting's Giants of Broadcasting Award and RTDNF's First Amendment Award.

**Hon. David Dreier** is the Founder and Chairman of the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation. He is a past Chairman of the Tribune Publishing Company. He is currently the Chairman of the Annenberg-Dreier Commission, which has focused on encouraging the free flow of goods, services, capital, information, ideas and people throughout the Greater Pacific. Dreier served as a member of the United States Congress, representing Los Angeles from 1980 until 2013. A passionate proponent of first amendment rights, he has championed a vigorous and free press. Dreier was the first Californian and one of the youngest and longest serving chairmen of the



powerful Rules Committee, structuring the debate for virtually every piece of legislation considered in Congress.

A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, he was the founding chairman of the House Democracy Partnership, a congressional commission that has worked to strengthen legislative bodies in twenty-one new and reemerging democracies across the globe. Additionally, he launched the bipartisan Congressional Trade Working Group that has built support for free trade agreements for more than thirty years.

Dreier is a Distinguished Fellow at the Brookings Institution and a trustee of both the California Institute of Technology and his alma mater, Claremont McKenna College, which has established the Dreier Roundtable to encourage young people into public service. He has served on the immigration reform and retirement savings commissions at the Bipartisan Policy Center. In addition to being an honors graduate of Claremont McKenna College, he holds a Master's degree from Claremont Graduate University.



## Appendix A – FJM Foundation Board of Advisors

**Wallis Annenberg**

The Annenberg  
Foundation

**Dean Baquet**

*The New York Times*

**Martin Baron**

*formerly Washington Post*

**Bret Baier**

*Fox News*

**Joyce Barnathan**

*International Center for  
Journalists*

**Willow Bay**

*Annenberg School, USC*

**Amanda Bennett**

*Voice of America*

**Wolf Blitzer**

*CNN*

**Tom Brokaw**

*NBC News*

**Sally Buzbee**

*The Washington Post*

**Geoffrey Cowan**

*USC Annenberg Center on  
Communications  
Leadership and Policy*

**Christopher Dolan**

*Washington Times*

**Major Garrett**

*CBS News*

**Donald Graham**

*Graham Holdings*

**Hugh Hewitt**

*Salem Radio Network*

**Brit Hume**

*Fox News*

**Al Hunt**

*Journalist*

**Rick Hutzell**

*Capital Gazette*

**Alberto Ibargüen**

*Knight Foundation*

**Dr. John L. Jackson Jr.**

*Annenberg School,  
University of Pennsylvania*

**Tom Johnson**

*formerly CNN and Los  
Angeles Times*

**Jonathan Karl**

*ABC*

**Cinny Kennard**

*The Annenberg Foundation*

**David Hume Kennerly**

*Photographer*

**Alison Fitzgerald Kodjak**

*Associated Press*

**the late Jim Lehrer**

*PBS NewsHour*

**Kevin Merida**

*L.A. Times*

**Andrea Mitchell**

*NBC News*

**Matt Murray**

*Wall Street Journal*

**Jan Neuharth**

*Freedom Forum, Freedom  
Forum Institute and  
Newseum*

**Clarence Page**

*Chicago Tribune*

**Norman Pearlstine**

*formerly Los Angeles  
Times*

**Christopher Ruddy**

*Newsmax*

**Tom Rosenstiel**

*American Press Institute*

**Bob Schieffer**

*CBS News*

**Gerald F. Seib**

*Wall Street Journal*

**Joel Simon**

*Committee  
to Protect Journalists*

**Gordon Smith**

*National Association of  
Broadcasters*

**Sally Bedell Smith**

*historian and biographer*

**Stephen G. Smith**

*formerly National  
Journal and US News &  
World Report*

**Catherine Merrill Williams**

*Washingtonian*

**Judy Woodruff**

*PBS NewsHour*



## **Appendix B – Organizations Supporting the Fallen Journalists Memorial**

Committee to Protect Journalists

Freedom Forum

International Center for Journalists

Military Reporters & Editors

National Association of Broadcasters

National Association of Hispanic Journalists

National Federation of Press Women

National Newspaper Association

National Press Club

National Press Club Journalism Institute

National Press Photographers Association

News Leaders Association

News Media Alliance

Radio Television Digital News Association

Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press



## Appendix C – Physical Attacks on U.S. Journalists July-August 2021

[NBC News correspondent harassed while reporting live on Hurricane Ida in Mississippi](#)  
August 30, 2021

[Reporter shoved, punched during anti-mask demonstration in Traverse City, Michigan](#)  
August 26, 2021

[Independent journalist assaulted, equipment damaged during Portland protest](#)  
August 22, 2021

[Reporter assaulted during Miami anti-mask mandate protest](#)  
August 18, 2021

[Correspondent threatened, kicked during anti-vaccine protest at LA's City Hall](#)  
August 14, 2021

[Photojournalist aimed at with realistic AR-15 style airsoft gun in Portland](#)  
August 8, 2021

[Journalist at advocacy news organization dragged from press conference](#)  
August 5, 2021

[Parent accosts Michigan journalist after school board meeting](#)  
August 2, 2021

[Independent videographer punched while covering anti-vaccine protest in LA](#)  
July 29, 2021

[Cameraman and journalist for Polish TV station chased from D.C.'s Lafayette Park during protest for Cuba](#)  
July 26, 2021

[Documentarian pushed, sprayed with chemical irritant while covering LA anti-mask protest](#)  
July 22, 2021

[Colorado Politics reporter assaulted by member of the public in Denver Capitol newsroom](#)  
July 20, 2021

[Guardian reporter thrown to the ground during protest at LA's Wi Spa](#)  
July 17, 2021

[Photojournalist attacked, has \\$1,000 of gear stolen while covering Wi Spa protests in L.A.](#)  
July 17, 2021

[San Antonio TV video journalist shot at while covering suspicious house fire](#)  
July 5, 2021

[Documentarian struck over the head with baton by man at L.A. demonstration](#)  
July 3, 2021